

THE GATEWAY

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\$290 student fee approved for 2010/11

SEAN STEELS
Senior News Editor

The University of Alberta's Board of Governors approved the implementation of a \$290-per-year non-instructional student fee last Friday morning to alleviate the effects of an encroaching \$59-million University budget deficit.

The new Common Student Space, Sustainability, and Security fee, reduced from a previous proposition of \$550 per year, will see full-time students billed \$145 per term, while part-time and spring/summer students will pay \$72.50 per term.

Off-campus students will be charged half the rate of their respective student status — for example, \$72.50 per term for a full-time student attending Augustana campus. The fee will, over the 2010/11 and 2011/12 academic years, garner \$10.6 and \$10.8 million, respectively, for the University.

The decision to present the fee to the board as a deficit solution was a difficult one, explained University Vice President (Research) Lorne Babiuk.

"It's been a complex year. We've had a lot of surprises and this isn't the normal route we'd take to the budget, but extraordinary circumstances call



STEFFI ROSSKOPF

UNDER THE GUN SU President Zach Fentiman (right) and president-elect Nick Dehod listen to the Administration's explanation of the new fee.

for extraordinary measures."

University Provost and Vice President (Academic) Carl Amrhein explained that the University had been unable to anticipate many of the decreases in government funding, which were handed down in the provincial budget for

2010. He pointed to the \$20 million shortfall in the province's Enrolment Planning Envelope — a funding strategy to increase access and enrolment to postsecondary education that was anticipated to generate \$66 million — as a reason for current deficit troubles.

"Over the [period since the commencement of EPE], growth will be slowed. We will not get 3,700 new students by 2013/14 [that] we had anticipated as a result of this funding, but will only have 2,500," Amrhein said.

PLEASE SEE **FEES** ♦ PAGE 2

Staff layoffs confirmed at annual BoG meeting

SIMON YACKULIC
News Staff

University of Alberta students hoping to take a class with their favourite professor might arrive in September and be disappointed.

At the March 26 Board of Governors meeting, the budget for the upcoming year was passed and staff layoffs have already become a reality — one that will directly affect students' classroom experience. Most of the cuts to faculty members that will affect the upcoming 2010/11 year, however, won't be decided upon until long after returning students have finished selecting next year's courses.

When asked how the cuts will affect classes for the upcoming school year, University Provost Carl Amrhein said that he was unsure himself.

"We'll have a much better answer to that question probably by the end of May, as the deans start revealing their academic plans starting July 1."

Amrhein did provide some reassurance. He expects that students will be able to take the necessary courses to graduate — though he explained that this hasn't been set in stone.

"At this point, we don't think that there will be any students who will be unable to get the courses that they need to graduate. We don't know for sure until the deans work through all of the details of their class schedules getting ready for September 1."

During his presentation to the BoG, Students' Union President Zach Fentiman noted that, "student employment is the lowest since [it first started being recorded in] 1977."

With layoffs already underway, students won't be the only ones looking for work this summer.

In interdepartmental correspondence sent out March 17, acting Executive Director of Academic Information and Communications Technology Kevin Moodie announced that notice had been given to four non-academic staff and one academic staff member.

Moodie also anticipated further loss of staff through the "Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program" in addition of the termination of currently vacant positions.

However, it is clear that the loss of staff in AICT is just the tip of the iceberg. In a presentation to BoG, the administration outlined the impact that cuts will have on staff positions. Salaries make up the largest budgetary expense at the U of A.

The presentation to the BoG outlined that a one per cent institutional budget reduction — if it solely relied on cutting staff — could translate into the loss of 33 academic and 33 support positions (or 41 each, if the positions are vacant). The institution is facing a five per cent budget reduction across the board.

"We have asked the deans for the 2010/11 fiscal year and all the operating units of the University to reduce their planned expenditures by five per cent," Amrhein said.

"We hope this is the two-year bad spot that all of our advisors tell us [it is], and beyond 2011/12, we'll see the fortunes of the province rebound. And we will go back to aggressively expanding the opportunities for students that the University has presented."

Ice Bears fall to SMU at nationals

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

Overtime can provide the highest of highs, or the lowest of lows. For the Alberta Golden Bears, extra time provided the most crushing of defeats this past weekend at CIS men's hockey nationals in Thunder Bay, Ontario as they fell 3–2 to the Saint Mary's Huskies in the championship final.

After winning both round robin matchups — 4–2 over Trois-Rivières and 5–3 over the host Lakehead Thunderwolves — the Bears went up against the Atlantic Conference champion Huskies in the final. Despite outplaying SMU early, it wasn't enough for Alberta.

Coming in as the pre-tournament favourites, Alberta started out with their best opening period of the tournament as Bears captain Tyler Metcalfe got the Green and Gold on the board with the lone goal of the first 20 minutes.

In the second period, however, Saint Mary's found their game, pushing back to even the score thanks to a tremendous deflection by Cam Fergus at the 10:37 mark of the second.

"In the second period, we seemed to take some penalties, got backed off our game. We didn't work things down low like we needed to," Bears head coach Eric Thurston said.

"We just weren't as physical, I felt, as we needed to be. It was a good start in the first period to be physical, but then we got away from that a little bit."

PLEASE SEE **SPORTS** ♦ PAGE 17



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAN MCKECHNIE

CLASS HALF EMPTY Layoffs of both academic and non-academic staff for 2010/11 have begun.

Pulling strings

The Erotic Anguish of Don Juan hopes to excite audiences with puppets hard as wood in plain sight.

A&E, PAGE 10



Cutting corners

Provincial Sport Organizations are facing tough decisions after the most recent rounds of budget cuts.

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THE GATEWAY

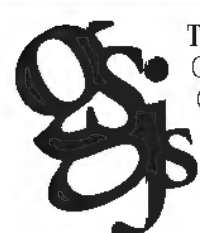
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Bruce Cinnamon, Aaron Yeo, Alix Kemp, Ross Vincent, Benjamin Nay, Angela Cheung, Nathan Liewicki, Simon Yackulic, Alexandria Eldridge, Dan McKechnie, Steffi Rosskopf, Charlie Crittenden, Michael O'Neill, Gabby Riches, Dustin Blumhagen, Wayne Simon, Madeline Smith, Grant Crawford, Vonn Gondziola, Elliot Goodline

Fees will be implemented in spring term

FEES ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Board of Governors Representative Steven Dollansky questioned whether the highly unusual approach of using market modifiers and non-instructional fees to close the budget gap was "inconsistent with government policy."

Amrhein responded that provincial jurisdiction left the doors open for whatever deficit solution the government would approve.

"The issue of compliance with government regulation is a decision in the hands of the government, not the University," he said. "We make the proposals to government, they assess the proposals, and they decide whether or not they are compliant with regulation."

"It is not the administration's position to tell the government that it is compliant or not."

Students' Union President Zach Fentiman appeared resigned at the meeting, and acknowledged that the situation would not please students.

"The CoSSS fee is simply acting as a stop-gap measure due to the financial position we find ourselves in. It's because of that that I would impress upon the Board [...] that this be implemented as a [temporary] measure," Fentiman said, reminding the Board that students would hold the University to their promise of maintaining program quality.

The fees will be implemented to maintain the quality and reputation of U of A programming, Amrhein said.

"Students are worried about us losing positions because positions represent people, and people



STEFFI ROSSKOPF

FEES PLEASE Amrhein hopes that education quality won't decrease next year.

define the quality of an institution," Amrhein acknowledged. "People cost money."

Board members also debated the fairness of passing fees onto students.

"I think, in the last year, we've been distracted by these financial issues. I don't know if we've been providing the direction we should to the institution," said Louis Francescutti, a board member and professor in the School of Public Health.

"I hear these comments from the students, and I'm concerned about market modifiers that are going to impact students that are in high schools right now, whose parents may not have the resources."

The Board committed to the utilization of market-modifying tuition readjustments to help cope with the third of the \$59 million deficit apportioned

to students. However, the government has yet to respond to the U of A's current proposal, which will see both course-based and program-based increases.

Under the proposal, the Law, Pharmacy, Medicine, and Dentistry programs will all receive gradually implemented (grandfathered) increases of between \$2,500–\$3,400, while course-based fees of \$172.56 per course will be applied to classes in Engineering, \$204 per course for Business classes, and \$30 a course for classes in Economics, Design, and geophysics and geology courses in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

Market modification will yield \$4.3 million for the University next year, and \$16.5 million in the 2011/12 school year if the government accepts the current proposal.

from the archives

"Gorbachev opens trust fund at U of C"

March 30, 1993

Gorbymania swept Calgary last week as Mikhail Gorbachev was in Cowtown promoting education and self-determination. Not a step, breath, or sigh went unnoticed since every detail was reported by the media.

So how did Calgary manage to get such a world figure and not Edmonton? Well, the International Centre at the University of Calgary invited Gorbachev to Cowtown in order to raise funds for the joint U of C/Gorbachev Foundation trust fund to support research and education links between Calgary and Russia.

"By joining hands across the North, we have much to share and many benefits to gain," said Bill Warden, director of the U of C International Center.

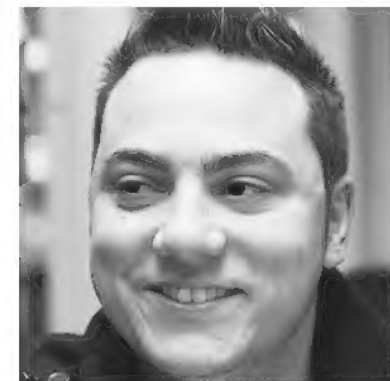
The Gorbachev Foundation was established in January 1992 to strengthen democracy in the former Soviet Union and to meet the needs of the emerging world order. The foundation also conducts studies in social, economic, and political issues.

From the Archives is a regular feature that explores the storied history of the Gateway, the University of Alberta's student newspaper since 1910. To read the full story and to explore our entire archive, check out thegatewayonline.ca/archives.

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Alexandria Eldridge and Dan McKechnie*As you may be aware, the Board of Governors reduced the cost of the Common Student Space, Sustainability, and Security fee from \$550 to \$290.*

What will you do with the "savings?"

**Andrea Fitzgerald**
Arts II**Harsimran Sanl**
Grant MacEwan**Jared Kope**
Physical Education IV**Filippo Caterina**
Science IV

I'd use the extra money to finish paying off my braces. And probably take a vacation as well.

I'd maybe buy another textbook, or buy a new textbook instead of a used one. But to me, it doesn't really make too much of a difference.

What I'd do is save up. It would be paying off student loans and travel.

Not much — I'm done next year. [What would you do?] Spend it on a motorcycle.

This Week
April 2-3
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from Toronto

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LGBT supporters stand in silence

JONATHAN TAVES
Deputy News Editor

Dozens of students were unified in silence last Friday, but their message was loud and clear: stop discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people.

This year's Day of Silence at the University of Alberta, organized through the Residence Halls Association, had participants wearing orange to raise awareness about harassment that the queer community still faces.

After staffing booths around campus during the day, volunteers broke their silence with yells and speeches at celebration plaza at 2 p.m. March 26.

"The scream [that broke the silence] is what I want you to remember, and it's what I want you to do every single day, and what I want you to do until we are actually equal," said Beth Padfield of the Queer Allied Network, an organization that campaigns for queer interests in Alberta.

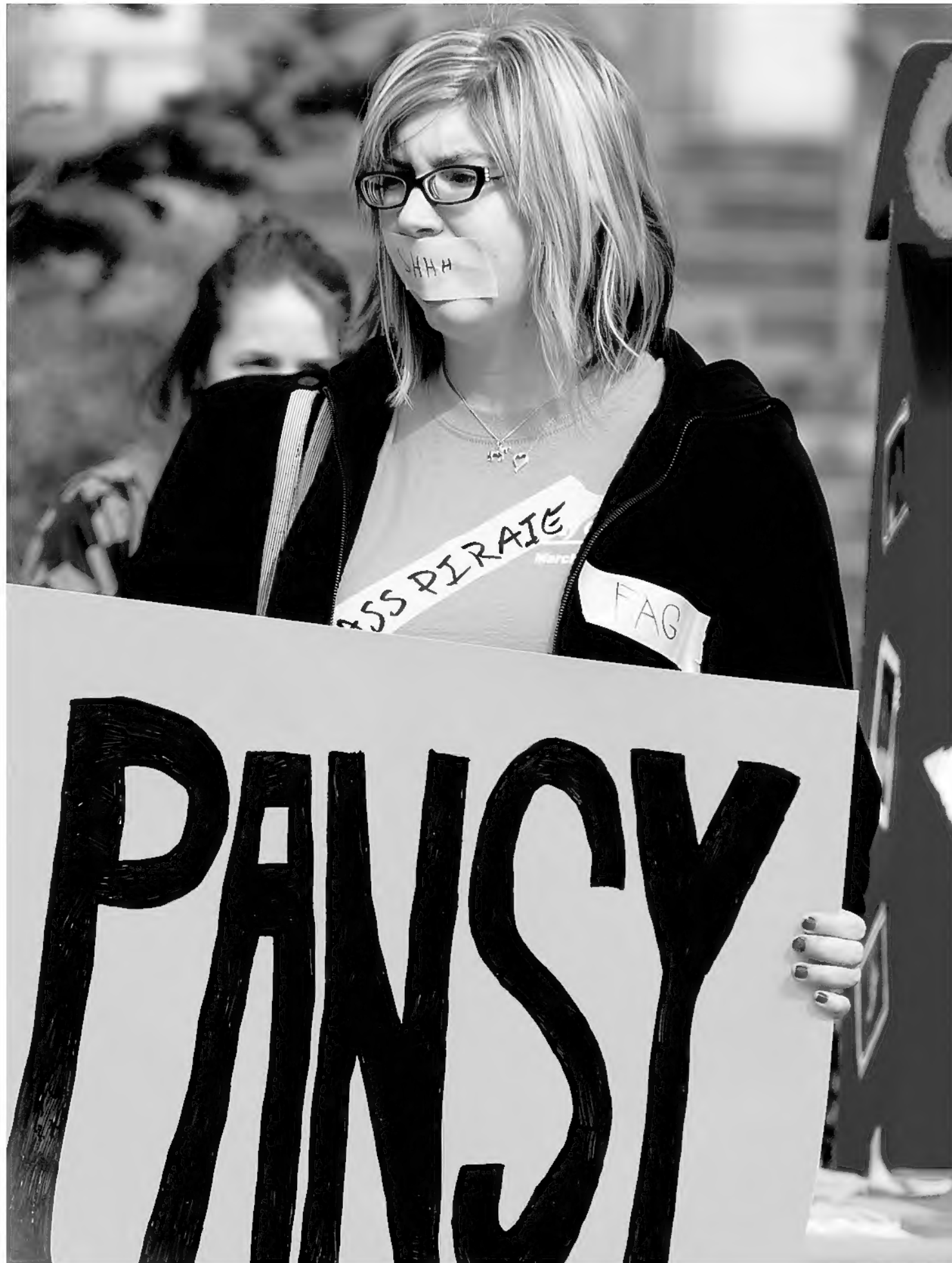
The QAN was formed after the introduction in 2009 of Bill 44 in the Alberta Legislature, which allows parents to remove their children from classes that address topics of sexual orientation or religion.

"Bill 44 is one of the most shameful things that has happened since I moved here 10 years ago," said André Grace, director of the Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services in the U of A's Faculty of Education.

"What the government is trying to do is pressure teachers not to address these issues by threatening to take them before the human rights commission."

The event marked the eighth year the Day of Silence took place at the U of A and the speakers encouraged the audience to look globally.

"Today is about all those queer kids across Alberta and across the world who suffer in silence because society continues to tell them they are sick, wrong, that they are somehow flawed, dysfunctional, or unnatural," said Brendan Van Alstine, a social worker at the Pride Centre of Edmonton, and a Ward 7 city councillor candidate in the upcoming municipal election.



PETE YEE

LIPS LOCKED FOR LGBT Students held their tongues on Friday to raise awareness.

Condemning Uganda's parliament for its efforts to make homosexuality punishable by death, Grace also noted how he felt that attitudes still need to change within our own borders.

"We live in a country that has laws and legislation to protect us, but unfortunately culture and society haven't caught up," he said.

"The recently released Canadian citizenship guide made us invisible again," he added, noting that the guide prospective citizens have to learn about Canada omits mention of the decriminalization of homosexuality in 1969, or that gay marriage was made legal in 2005.

The New Democratic Party's Member of Parliament for Edmonton-Strathcona, Linda Duncan, also expressed concern about the

Conservative government's treatment of queer issues.

"When I did my undergraduate, it was actually illegal to even give out information on birth control. So we've come a little bit of a ways, but we're seeing on [Parliament] Hill [that] we're starting to slip-slide the other direction," she said.

Michael Phair, a former city councillor, and current director of community relations at the U of A, explained how he thought change can be made locally by being vocal.

"On the social level, it's so important what you do every day on campus with your fellow students, in classrooms, as well as in your communities," he said. "Never forget, breaking the silence is that important step that moves all of us forward socially."

Wikipedia fast becoming classroom tool

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE
News Staff

Despite the objections of some professors, it seems that Wikipedia is being used by the majority of students for their class-based research and some academics don't see that as entirely bad news.

According to a report published in *First Monday*, an online, peer-reviewed research journal, about 52 per cent of U.S. college students admit to using Wikipedia frequently or all the time when doing course-related research.

The report surveyed six institutions and claims that the four Cs of Wikipedia make it popular — currency, coverage, comprehensibility, and convenience.

Heidi Julien, a professor in the University of Alberta's Faculty of Library and Information Studies, explained that because of these factors, students turn to Wikipedia as a starting point for research.

"Undergraduates turn to it mostly for background information, to get an idea, maybe get some key words for their searching," she said. "They tend not to rely on it for any in-depth research."

Julien said she thinks this is the appropriate use of Wikipedia for students.

"I think that using it just to get a basic idea about a topic is not a bad thing. It's an easily accessible, convenient source for people on such a wide range of topics."

According to the report, many students do fact-check what they read on Wikipedia and they may use the bibliography included at the end of every article.

"Many articles do include a bit of bibliography and those can provide some interesting jumping-off points to do some further research on a topic," Julien said.

According to Julien, banning Wikipedia is not the solution. She believes instructors should teach students about proper research.

"Students will use it regardless, so you might as well identify the appropriate uses for it and help students understand why those uses are appropriate and others may not be."

Students' Union Vice President (Academic) Leah Trueblood agreed that students often use Wikipedia for finding background information, but noted that students may have other

uses for it as well.

"[Students] sometimes use it to introduce themselves to the canon of knowledge. We have an enormously diverse student body and a really wide variety of disciplines, so I think people use it really differently."

Trueblood said that problems often arise in the classroom when students don't understand when the use of Wikipedia is inappropriate.

"If we set clear expectations, through documents like syllabi, through collaboration with institutions like the library, then we won't have problems. We need a support mechanism that students can access to learn and work through these things," she said.

Trueblood also said that she thinks having all the stakeholders working together to create a support system for students is essential.

"The libraries are another great resource; they're really helpful. There's lots of mechanisms and we need to work together as an academic community to make them clear for students, so that students can succeed."

The report also showed that students who consulted librarians were less likely to use Wikipedia.

[U of A]
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Annie Mae's Movement
by Yvette Nolan

March 25 - April 3, 2010 at 7:30pm

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FACT:

A month after the Burj Khalifa opened in Dubai as the world's new tallest tower, An observation-deck elevator recently broke, leaving visitors stranded between floors. This has led some to speculate that shoddy workmanship and materials may lead to maintenance and safety problems in the future.

FACT:

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Centralize postsecondary control: Ashton

SEAN STEELS
Senior News Editor

Fundamental changes must be made to how Canadians handle their advanced education, according to federal NDP postsecondary critic Niki Ashton.

Ashton — an MP representing the Churchill riding — was on campus last Friday with fellow MP Linda Duncan to discuss issues affecting postsecondary education. But while students might have been concerned with the budget discussion going on at the University of Alberta's Board of Governors meeting, her focus was decidedly more national.

High on her list of alterations was the amount of power provincial governments have over how schools run their affairs. Government funding for schools in Alberta is split between the provincial and federal government, but the federal government has little control over how that money is spent.

"We need to see federal commitment," Ashton said. "This idea that postsecondary is under the control of the provinces is pretty silly when we're part of a country where post-secondary education should be part of a fundamental vision as to how we'll move forward."

Ashton advocated for a reduced provincial role in postsecondary funding and support, while acknowledging that centralizing decision-making in Parliament would provide a powerful tool for educational reform.

"[Such a transfer] would serve the purpose of national leadership," Ashton said.

"Provinces obviously do and must



PETE YEE

EVERYONE'S A CRITIC Ashton (left) and Duncan sat down with students Friday.

have a say, and that's part of that act, but really the federal government does have some responsibility in this discourse."

Currently, the hands of federal education reform are being tied by provincial control of postsecondary affairs, according to Ashton.

"When I've raised postsecondary education in the House time and time again, many members of the governing party have [said] that is up to the province. This traps us in a cycle where we're avoiding responsibility when in fact we need to change the channel," Ashton said.

Ashton also took time to talk about the effects of commercialization on research being done at universities throughout the country. She called the

designation of federal funding for specific research disciplines an "attack on academic freedom."

"Fortunately, in this year's budget, we didn't see that kind of ear-marking," she said.

Ashton, herself a PhD candidate in Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Manitoba, recounted how when such measures were implemented in the 2008 budget, she felt her own work threatened by the preferential funding scheme.

"I was able to undertake my post-graduate work the way I did thanks to a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council grant at the master's level. I can tell you that if I had applied during that year, there's no way that I would have received a grant."

Child health focus of nutrition symposium

JONATHAN TAVES
Deputy News Editor

Students in this year's Nutrition 440 class are taking a comprehensive approach to their field for this year's annual symposium by looking at nutrition before people are even born.

The class is put in charge of everything from fundraising, to booking speakers to talk during this year's event entitled "Nutrition to Grow: Exploring Maternal and Child Health," taking place Wednesday afternoon at 1 p.m. at the Myer Horowitz Theatre.

"It's a very important and interesting topic for a lot of the health sciences field. It's also relevant to [the university] age group since lots of students after school will eventually be starting a family," explained Lisa Jolicoeur, one of the students organizing the event.

The guests the students recruited to speak include Tim Green, a professor of

Human Nutrition at the University of British Columbia, who will talk about the importance of vitamin D during pregnancy; Pediatrics professor Stephanie Atkinson of McMaster University, who will address bone health from infancy to adolescence; and Barbara Marriage, a senior researcher at the company Abbott Nutrition, who will discuss early feeding and later health effects.

The University of Alberta's own Linda Casey, a pediatrician and nutritional expert, will also be speaking.

"Now we have quite detailed and specific nutritional treatments for infants and children, but we don't have very specific ways of measuring the effects on them. So tomorrow I'm going to be talking about studies that look at the long-term effects associated with diets," she said.

Casey noted how consistent insight into these long-term effects has been difficult to obtain.

"There is a series of studies that have been coming out over the last few years that suggests there are some rather difficult-to-manage effects," she said. "As you might expect, improved nutrition by the standards that we had 10, 15, or 20 years ago seems to relate to better IQ. That's not a big surprise, but there are also things to suggest it relates to increase in blood pressure, and also seem to have a increased risk in insulin resistance, which isn't a good thing"

Casey explained how standards such as muscle or fat composition need to be added to the criteria to assess childhood health, and that now there is technology available to do that.

She said that it's important for experts to gain knowledge about the effect nutrition can have for children later in life.

"It seems to be increasingly challenging for families to [have good nutrition] given the competing interests of fast food, the fact that families are rushed, time and money issues, and all those sorts of things."

The NUTR 440 students are happy to have the opportunity to bring these issues to prominence.

"It's a lot of information that isn't normally discussed and talked about," said Erin Faught, another student.

Casey said that she believes information-sharing sessions like the symposium are valuable.

"Because I'm a pediatrician, obviously nutritional issues in children are pretty key and of great interest to me and my profession," she said. "Opportunities to sit down and talk about some of these things and look at the ways we need to move forward are very important."

Prior to the Horowitz event, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., nutrition students from 300- and 400-level classes will be presenting their research projects during a poster display in Dinwoodie Lounge.



PETE YEE

HAPPY ABOUT HEALTH Jolicoeur (left) and Faught hope for high attendance.

Olympic sites face aftermath

ANDREW BATES
CUP Western Bureau Chief

KELOWNA, B.C. (CUP) — The Olympic and Paralympic party has finally ended, and as spectators and athletes alike go back to business, the lights have dimmed and Olympics organizers are packing up and getting used to life after the Games.

The biggest thing that the host cities are waiting for from the Vancouver Organizing Committee, though, are the venues.

“They are responsible, essentially, for returning the [Richmond Olympic] Oval as they found it,” said Ted Townsend, manager of communications for the City of Richmond. According to Townsend, past venue cities told the municipality that the biggest post-Games headache can be what to do with those venues once they get them back.

“They had built a building for the Olympics and not really thought about the aftermath of the Olympics until much later in the game,” he said.

Richmond is preparing the venue, which was used primarily to host speed-skating events, to reopen as a sports and recreation centre on April 1. The Oval will host two international-size hockey rinks, up to eight basketball courts, and a running track. The long-track speed skating venue will be dismantled, though it could be reactivated if needed — Richmond is in discussions with Speed Skating Canada to host the World Cup of Speed Skating as early as 2011.

According to Townsend, the city is also trying to work with VANOC to see if some of the Games equipment can be left behind.

“Some things we might look at and say, ‘Yes, we’ll purchase that.’ Other things VANOC may simply make the decision that it’s not worth their



SUPPLIED

TOWER OF POWER Sports fans can buy this tower from VANOC for \$500.

while to try and remove and resell that material,” he said. “So if we’re willing to take it, then we can have it for nothing, and so we’re hoping for lots of those kind of deals.”

Apart from the Oval, though, Richmond is trying to make the best out of what they have left at the celebration venues.

“With a lot of signage, we designed it in such a way that it can be reused [...] at future events,” he said. “There’s a lot of directional signage, and things like that. If it’s designed correctly, there’s no reason that can’t be reused.”

They also intend on trying to sell banners and other signage as collectibles, saying that proceeds could be

donated to sports and local charities.

Three Whistler venues — the Whistler Sliding Centre for luge and skeleton, the Olympic Park where cross-country skiing and biathlon took place, and the Athletes’ Village venue, to be turned into a training facility — will be operated by a non-profit called Whistler 2010 Sport Legacies.

Access was finally opened to the Whistler-Creekside downhill ski hill at the Whistler-Blackcomb resort this week following Paralympic events, and Cypress Mountain hills have been open since March 5, though the weather-plagued venue still doesn’t have enough snow to host a tube park.

Seven students’ associations motion to leave Canadian Federation of Students

JACOB SEREBRIN
CUP Quebec Bureau Chief

MONTREAL (CUP) — Whether the Canadian Federation of Students likes it or not, seven of their members are attempting to leave the organization this semester.

While bylaws approved last November stipulate that only two schools can leave Canada’s largest student lobby group within a given timeframe, schools are attempting to bypass the bylaw in a myriad of ways.

The only two student organizations approved by the CFS to hold membership referendums this semester were the Alberta College of Art and Design Students’ Association and the McGill Post-Graduate Students’ Society. Even the PGSS has overstepped CFS bylaws, though, by holding a longer-than-approved voting period for the referendum, which they say is necessary to achieve enough voters to make a decision.

The University of Guelph Central Students’ Association received permission from an Ontario Superior Court judge on March 24 to hold a referendum in April questioning their membership in both the national and Ontario components of the CFS.

That same week, the University of Calgary Graduate Students’ Association voted 740 to 166 to end their membership with the CFS, with a turnout

of 15.6 per cent — despite not having approval from the national federation. Matt Musson, director of campaigns for the association, said their council has approved the results and they will begin exiting “according to CFS bylaws.”

The University of Regina Students’ Union has also indicated that they will be moving forward with a membership referendum.

“It’s quite unfortunate that they’re doing this to us now, because it’s not the responsibility of our students to pay this.”

ERIK CHEVRIER
CGSA COUNCILLOR

In Quebec, where the “defederation” movement has been extremely vocal, continued-membership referendums are going ahead at three of the federation’s four member student unions there — the Concordia Student Union (CSU), the Concordia Graduate Students’ Association (CGSA), and the PGSS — with the PGSS referendum being the only one approved.

The CFS, who has claimed all three unions owe them a significant amount

of money, has refused to participate in two of the three referendums and is expected not to recognize their results.

Even while sanctioned by the CFS, the PGSS has wound up in court with the federation several times over the referendum.

The PGSS intends to go ahead with a four-day referendum despite only being approved for two days by the CFS. Federation bylaws stipulate that they must select two members for referendum oversight committees — but because the PGSS is overstepping the approved referendum dates, PGSS President Daniel Simeone believes that CFS-appointed members of the referendum oversight committee could attempt to hold a separate referendum overlapping with the last two days of the official PGSS elections and referendum, which run from March 29 to April 1.

According to Erik Chevrier, a CGSA councillor, CFS lawyers have told the grad association’s legal counsel that the GSA owes the CFS over \$200,000 in membership fees dating back to 1995.

“It’s quite unfortunate that they’re doing this to us now, because it’s not the responsibility of our students to pay this — it should have been corrected right from the source, right from the beginning,” said Chevrier. “Now 15 years later, we can’t expect the students to pay for the bill of what was done before.”

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gateway student journalism society

STUDENTS-AT-LARGE REQUIRED

The Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS) requires TWO students-at-large from the University community to serve on its board of directors for the term of May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2011.

Applicants must be U of A undergraduate students and may not be members of Students’ Council, General Faculties Council, Board of Governors, or the Senate of the University of Alberta.

If you are interested, please submit a brief note (no more than 400 words) on what makes you a good candidate for this position no later than noon on Friday, April 16, 2010 to the Chair of the GSJS board. Submissions can be made by email to biz@gateway.ualberta.ca, or through the campus mail to Ashleigh Brown, c/o Gateway Student Journalism Society, 3-04 SUB.

Please outline previous volunteer experience and not-for-profit organization experience if applicable (though none is explicitly required).

more
than
meets
the
eye

thegatewayonline.ca

Laws in Dubai are too closed-minded

WITHIN THE PAST MONTH IN DUBAI, TWO SEPARATE instances of gestures that would be deemed unpleasant (at worst) in western cultures have forced the emirate's judicial system to shell out some harsh jail sentences. Two and a half weeks ago, British tourists Charlotte Adams and Ayman Najafi were sentenced to one month each in prison, followed by immediate deportation, after the pair were spotted kissing in a local restaurant and reported by a patron who was enjoying a meal with her children. Setting an even more merciless precedent, British visitor Simon Andrews — who was detained in August 2009 and ordered by local authorities to remain in the United Arab Emirates — is scheduled to hear on April 4 whether or not he will receive a proposed six-month prison sentence for giving the finger while having a heated argument with a local aviation student.

Despite normally evoking the image of being a progressive location for both big business and tourists, Dubai is governed by laws that have been built, to an extent, to reflect the strict moral values of the culture that fills the area. But while some of the rules that must be followed actually serve to protect the safety and well-being of individuals, there are some laws — such as the ones broken in the aforementioned instances — that serve no purpose other than to drop an unnecessary punishment on the people involved.

If your culture determines that you should reprimand individuals for said acts, go ahead and hit them with a monetary fine. But regardless of one's cultural views on the two scenarios in question, there is no conceivable way that either party, in good conscience, should've been given prison terms for their actions.

In fact, Adams and Najafi didn't even do anything wrong. Though it can come off as gratuitous and icky when committed in public, a kiss is still a minimal sign of affection for another human being, whether it was the peck on the cheek that Adams claims it was, or the tongue-mashing grope-fest from the vantage point of the woman in the restaurant. Even in Andrews' case, while motioning with one's middle finger is impolite and probably should've been avoided, it's still a harmless gesture and one that's not even recognized universally as meaning "fuck you."

The fact that people can be sentenced to prison time for actions that don't pose a legitimate threat to another individual, or to the general public, demonstrates that the punishments handed out by Dubai's authorities don't fit some of the crimes that are determined by the rigid structure of decency in Muslim culture.

Certainly, there are aspects of the emirate's law, as determined by said cultural values, where punishments can be universally agreed upon. For instance, in an effort to prevent drunk driving, one must have a blood-alcohol level of no higher than 0.00 per cent before getting behind the steering wheel of a car. Anything else will result in punitive action — something that really should be the case everywhere.

However, while Dubai is a hub for Muslim culture and they may govern it as they see fit, when you're running a country that is trying to invite the world in, there needs to be some leeway on tradition when the result of not adhering to them is imprisonment.

Citizens of the world who travel to Dubai should, at the very least, have an awareness and be respectful of Muslim culture before travelling there. By that same token, however, the emirate's lawmakers and religious supporters need to comprehend that they're setting these guidelines for what has become a tourist destination and, as such, a significant portion of the people who travel there will not practice the same ideals that they do. In the long run, threatening visitors with imprisonment for committing a cultural faux-pas will only serve to tarnish Dubai's image and alienate people from spending their money to visit the emirate.

NICK FROST
Managing Editor

The new Tiger Woods

James cheats on Bullock
Good thing she had a pre-nup
Still, total dick move

SARAH STEAD
Sandra Bullock fangirl



ROSS VINCENT

letters TO THE eds

It's a Planet of the Apes

RE: (Senseless classroom comments, March 25)

I became engrossed in Cody Civiero's assertions on stupid questions. Cody cited a classroom question he felt to be self-evidently stupid: "Would it be correct to say that modern chimpanzees will eventually evolve into humans?" A PBS webpage containing the broadcaster's evolution FAQs currently contains the question, "Could apes ever evolve into some other human-like creature?" PBS didn't find this question stupid. It dignified it by answering it with a qualified "Yes, it is possible that in many millions of years present-day apes could evolve into some other humanlike species. It is, however, very improbable." Q.E.D.

DAVID FERRIER
Via Internet

Abortion debate a mess

RE: (Abortion arguments need to be reframed, March 23)

I find it necessary to respond to Taryn Hancock's letter in the March 25, 2010 edition of the Gateway.

Hancock skewers the notion of post-abortion syndrome, insisting that it isn't listed in the DSM-IV, and that women who get an abortion

experience identical rates of depression as those who choose adoption or parenting. It is, of course, a fact that post-abortion syndrome isn't listed in the DSM-IV. Clinical depression, however, is.

Drawing Hancock's attention to the conclusions of Thorp et al (2003), one would feel compelled to remind her that the matter of whether or not depression and other mood disorders can be linked to abortion over the long term remains a matter of some scientific debate. Other studies have concluded that women who receive later-term induced abortions (second or third trimester) experience even greater rates of depression than women who undergo the procedure earlier. There is, of course, disagreement regarding the conclusions of these studies.

And that is the issue at hand: by attempting to dismiss the notion that women who receive abortions may experience greater rates of depression, Hancock has done an extreme disservice to women. Ethically speaking, an individual has the right to know about any of the risks that may be associated with any medical procedure they receive. In the medical field, this is known as "informed consent." The right of a patient to grant informed consent shouldn't be impeded by the opinions of a group who don't want those potential risks to be recognized.

In his recent opinion article on the topic of abortion, Mustafa Farooq was precisely right. The majority of Canadians have left the abortion debate to the people of the shrill

fringes for far too long. It was with a disturbed variant of amusement that this writer managed to provoke another member of the pro-choice fringe to attempt to defend the facetious "clump of cells" argument favoured by so many members of the pro-abortion lobby.

One would expect that the notion that an unborn child is more than simply "a clump of cells" would be very uncontroversial among a highly-educated audience as is found at the University of Alberta.

The question of whether or not women suffer greater rates of depression after an abortion is one that should be taken very seriously and absolutely should not simply be swept aside out of ideological fervour. It warrants further study, and until these matters can be settled without controversy, women seeking abortions should be notified of these potential risks, so that they can make the best possible decision regarding abortion.

As Farooq notes, there are many good reasons for abortion to remain legal. But to cede the abortion debate to the shrill fringes — a label that, as Farooq's article infers, applies to both sides of the debate — is a recipe for civic disaster.

PATRICK ROSS
Arts IV

SU must focus on admin

RE: (Students march on Legislature to fight fee imposition, March 23)

Everyone can appreciate the effort

the SU gives to protests and rallies and whatnot. Instead, perhaps we should take a different approach in regards to our university's financial crisis. How about the SU demand a big in-house U of A cleaning? Our president Indira Samarasekera and her fellow executives receive a ridiculous amount of compensation. I think she doesn't want to give up a paycheck worth more than what Barack Obama receives.

In the spirit of sacrifice we have all been called to embrace, why can't she and the other multi-figured executives show us the example of sacrifice? We revile the government so bitterly for screwing us over budget after budget, but the largess that secretly occurs under the University roofs is just as bad. I would like the SU to show their claws and demand some belt tightening across every department, committee, or group that is wasteful — I've heard there's a lot of it.

DARREN INNIS
Arts IV

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca or delivered to SUB 3-04.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters should be no longer than 350 words, and include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.

Attractiveness isn't just skin deep



BRUCE
CINAMON

“But those who wish to alter their complexion surely have the right to do so, just as it's their right to risk epidermal damage with potentially dangerous creams. It would be just as wrong to deny them the opportunity to conform to the new standard as it would be to force them to do so.”

The pursuit of physical perfection has long been an obsession for many of us, be it to attract a specific kind of buddy, to shove our beauty in the face of all the aesthetically sub-standard people out there, or to feed our own vanity. As a direct result, the market of products to improve one's appearance has become a multi-billion-dollar global industry.

A large portion of that industry is based in India, the land of Bollywood starlets and cheap-to-produce reality television series. And media influences there have recently come under fire from dermatologists at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences for advertising a large scope of skin lightening products. Dubbed “Snow White Syndrome,” the glorification of fairer skin is having a profound effect on India's younger generation. The skin-whitening market alone is worth an estimated \$432 million US to the Indian economy, exceeding the country's total sales of tea and Coca-Cola combined.

Familiar brands such as Neutrogena, L'Oreal, and Olay offer products for “lightening, brightening, clearing, whitening, anti-pigmentation, freshening, anti-dullness, and even illuminating.” Accusations made by the Indian

medical community claiming that the creams contain harmful steroids have not discouraged sales in any way, nor prompted any serious investigations.

But beyond the dubious health effects, the huge demand for these kind of products raise many questions about the standards of beauty themselves. Obviously this new aesthetic ideal has been culturally exported from the west. The impressions fostered have been that to be fair-skinned is to be valuable. and that only by changing the colour of their skin and imitating the images from the American media can young women and men be worthy of attention from their peers and be proud of their own appearances.

The irony, of course, is that while millions of Indians are smearing themselves with whitening creams, many of us are covering our own pasty skin with instant bronzers and tanning gels. They're disfiguring themselves with untested steroid ointments, and we're flirting with skin cancer by baking in tanning beds for several hours a week. The orange-skinned “Jersey Shore” aesthetic has become the impossible ideal — too light for the natural Indian pigment and too dark for the pale skin of those who live in a land of seemingly perpetual winter.

But the principal issue of the skin-whitening phenomenon is a question of freedom of expression versus acceptance and pride in one's ethnicity. To embrace the notion that only pale complexions are beautiful and to shun those with darker skin is obviously racist. By creating a culture where what is natural is perceived as ugly, many will be shamed into changing for fear of being met with disdain and disgust.

But those who wish to alter their complexion surely have the right to do so, just as it's their right to risk epidermal damage with potentially dangerous creams. It would be just as wrong to deny them the opportunity to conform to the new standard as it would be to force them to do so. To ban or limit such products would only create resentment against those who try to preserve old standards, and self-loathing in those who accept the new.

Despite the social pressure to conform, the choice is ultimately left to the individual. For those who are self-confident, and not dependent on the opinions of others, the passing ideas of attractiveness will not matter very much, if at all. But those who are insecure about their appearance and their skin, no matter its colour, mustn't be condemned for choosing to change it.

Altered photographs too commonplace

Pictures shouldn't be taken so seriously when image manipulation is rampant



AARON
YEO

Tom, Dick, or Harry to manipulate an image to their liking.

Photographic evidence is regularly used in court and although it goes under intense amounts of scrutiny, we can no longer have the same level of faith in its authenticity. Anyone can create an alibi for a murderer, or remove incriminating details from a murder scene. While photos in court are given little credibility unless they are from an authoritative source such as the police, it only takes one dirty cop to tamper with evidence. It's not only in court that they have importance; libel issues arise when a publication or even a notable and well-followed Internet blog publishes an illegitimate photograph.

Photos can no longer be given such high regard, and a new, more trustworthy medium is needed.

Unfortunately, there's no easy way to tell whether or not a photo has been changed. Embedded information on a digital file can reveal if a picture has been run through Photoshop, but it can't tell us what exactly was done — digital manipulation leaves little to no trace. Experienced eyes can spot out inconsistencies with lighting, shadows, edges, and the like, but those are usually signs of a careless job, which the best artists can cleverly eliminate.

Currently the most effective line of defense is tracing source imagery. If someone wants to alter a photo

of someone by placing a gun into his hand, he must first obtain an image of a gun to use. All it takes to prove that the firearm was not part of the original picture is to find the same gun image. However, with the Internet and increasingly large databases of stock photos of practically every object imaginable, finding the same source image is becoming incredibly difficult.

Photos can no longer be given such high regard, and a new, more trustworthy medium is needed. Video seems like the next most logical step, but that won't last long, since video is essentially a string of photos, and virtually any kind of image manipulation can be extrapolated onto every frame with a bit of time and effort. It doesn't help that the majority of incriminating video evidence is from grainy, low-quality, monochrome security camera footage, which is much easier to mess with. Although not all video security networks record audio, it may be useful to install systems that do. Methods for convincingly altering audio feeds are much less known, and there isn't a similarly burgeoning Internet market for that as there is with amusing images.

Where we go from here remains to be seen. Multimedia clips may become the only trustworthy depiction of reality, but they're not entirely reliable, so their future is just as bleak. With the advent of 3D TV, perhaps three-dimensional footage will make an appearance, but one can only imagine at this point. Trying to envision a new medium on which real events can be recorded is a difficult task — we can only wait and see what comes next.

Opinions are like... OPERA
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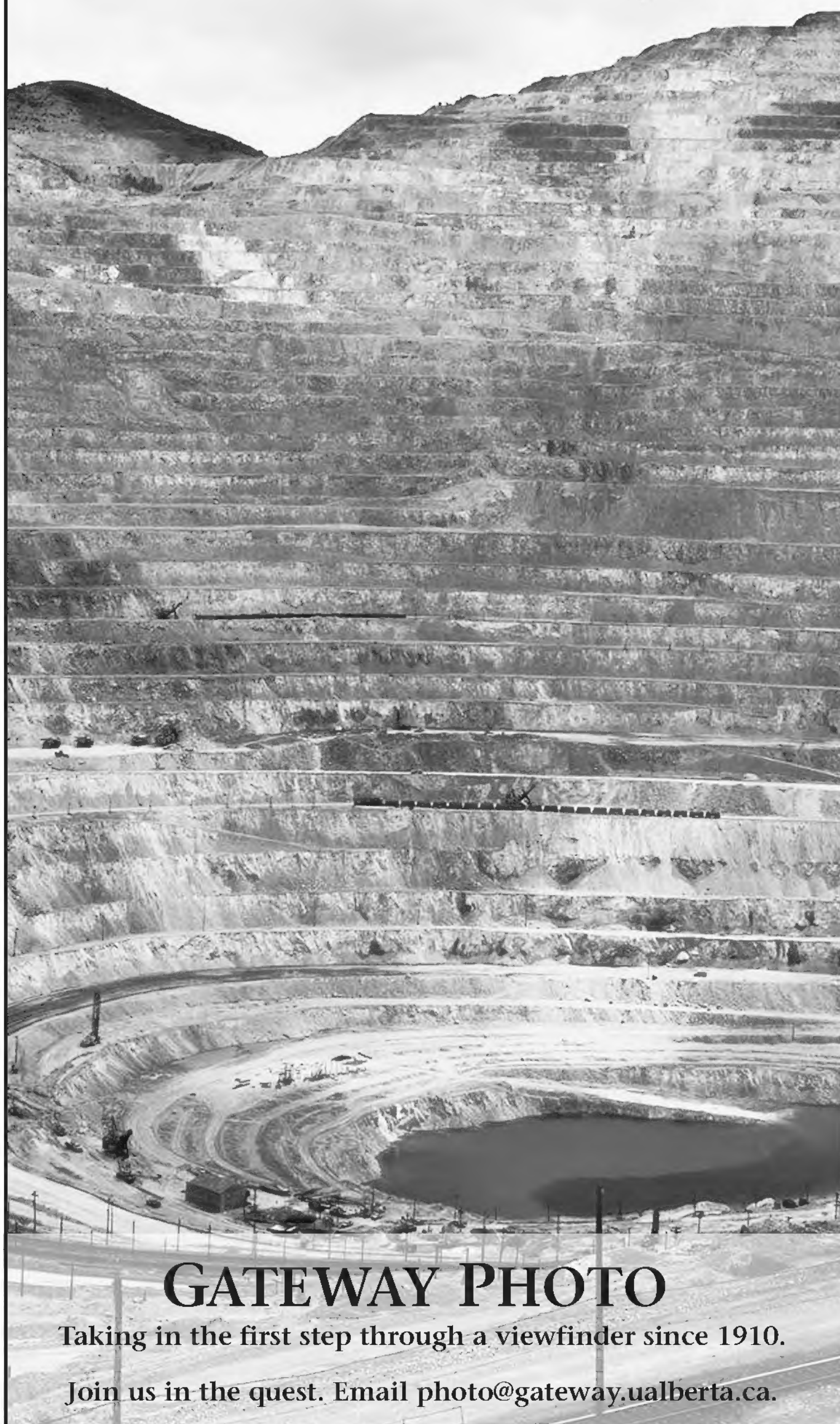
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When Gunther Hermann of *Deus Ex* fame wants orange soda after a hard day of slicing up terrorists and filling out incident reports, you'd better not give him lemon-lime — otherwise you might end up as fodder for his shiny new skull-gun.

GATEWAY OPINION

SATISFYING YOUR THIRST
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Armour restrictions won't stop crime



CODY
CIVIERO

The Canadian nanny state threatens to extend its matriarchal grasp once again, as Manitoba's NDP government has tabled a bill seeking to restrict ownership of vehicle and body armour. Welcome to the true north, strong and free, where the fundamental right of self-preservation is again eroded in principle and practice.

Under the proposed legislation, anyone seeking to own such items would have to apply for a permit, explain their reasoning, and be subjected to a background check. That's right — restrictions are to be extended beyond Canada's strident gun control and exhaustive prohibitive weapons list to now include objects that can't even be used as weapons.

Nobody should have to justify non-violent defense of their own life. Outlawing and regulating innocuous, non-weapon equipment is an insult to

anybody who has a desire to own them for any reason, assumes guilt, and subjects people to incredibly evasive measures. It's a preemptive, collective punishment doled out based on what hypothetically "could happen," not an effort to hold individuals who create real harm personally accountable.

Even setting the obscene affront to liberal principles behind the bill's logic aside, it would be impractical and counterproductive from a consequentialist standpoint. Although lawmakers have argued that the measure is intended to counter criminal activity, it would actually create a new source of revenue for organized crime and undermine our society by pushing formally taxable items into the black market. After all, criminals, by definition, ignore laws.

It's a sad commentary on the state of Canadian society that police officials have come out arguing that such a bill is necessary to prevent criminals from overmatching law enforcement. When so much money is wasted on superfluous programs and excesses, it's shameful that one of the only fundamental functions of the state is neglected: the safety of our men in uniform.

The real solution is to endow our police with adequate funding in order

to equip officers with the best possible armour, weapons, and tools. They aren't to be faulted — rather, blame should be laid on the legislatures and budget-makers who have left them under-equipped and offered these offensive, authoritarian, and ineffective non-solutions as a superficial form of appeasement.

Instead of punishing benign ownership of objects, our government should punish malicious use. Owning a balaclava is legal, but the Criminal Code of Canada includes an additional charge of "concealment" if one is worn in commission of a crime. Similar legislation can be easily written in for the items currently being debated.

It seems inevitable that most people will shrug, ridicule the concept of owning such things, and claim body armour to be impractical and a sign of paranoia. But regardless of whether the average person will need to own body armour in their lifetime, it's another move in a continuous line of disrespect for self-determination demonstrated by Canadian officials. If laws continue to become broader and more restrictive, and guilt is continued to be assumed, everyone will be deemed a criminal — it's just a matter of time.

Women's studies too straight and narrow



ALIX
KEMP

As outrageous as it might seem to some feminists, patriarchy doesn't only affect females. It also affects queers, transgendered people, and even men. Having a department dedicated only to discussing how oppressed women are, without addressing how patriarchy and misogyny impact all parts of society is almost entirely pointless.

When I once made the mistake of mentioning in a women's studies course that I was interested in men's issues, several girls looked at me in shock, before one finally said, "Well, if you want to talk about men, you should take a history class." History is my major, and incidentally where I learned how much of what I learned in women's studies is complete crap. For instance, despite what I was told in the intro class I took in my first year, 6 million women were *not* killed during the medieval witch trials. The actual number is closer to 60,000.

Erroneous information based on the writing of '60s feminists is a symptom of the department's larger problem: the concept of "women's studies" is outdated. As much as women's studies majors might be attached to their department, we've come to a point

where we have to address how patriarchal norms affect society as a whole. Other schools have caught on to this, replacing their women's studies departments with "Gender and Sexuality Studies," a program that's capable of addressing the broader issues of patriarchy and sexism as they affect everyone, and not just straight, middle-class women. If the U of A were to follow suit and introduce courses on queerness and the socialization of masculinity, they might be surprised to find increased enrolment and genuine interest.

As it stands now, the women's studies program manages to alienate everyone on campus except for that core group of oblivious white girls who think battling oppression involves an extended debate about whether feminists are allowed to marry their boyfriends. Until they realize that real feminism is about more than their relationship troubles, and actually interacts with serious issues about gender and sexuality as a whole, I'm going to swap out my accidental women's studies course and take a little more history instead — I've heard some rumours that some of their classes do actually mention women.

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Sexy puppet play hopes to go all the way with audience

theatrepreview

The Erotic Anguish of Don Juan

Conceived and written by Peter Balkwill, Mercedes Bätz-Benét, Pityu Kenderes, Judd Palmer, and Vanessa Porteous

Starring Duval Lang, Pityu Kenderes, Don Brinsmead, and Anne Lalancette
Runs March 30–April 18 at 8 p.m.,
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CHARLIE CRITTENDEN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Puppet sex. Think about it. While you're thinking, consider *The Erotic Anguish of Don Juan*, an upcoming show from the Old Trout Puppet Workshop that narrates the legendary lover's escape from hell.

"He's been banished to hell for his past deeds," says Duval Lang, the only human actor in a show populated primarily with puppets, "and he's given one chance to redeem himself by telling his story to others, so that they can avoid his mistakes. [But] he can't resist his love-making tendencies — he gets caught [in the act] several times in the telling of the story — and he interacts with the audience in a lustful manner."

Recalling the quality childhood time you spent with the Muppets, you may question the presence of love-making tendencies in puppetry. Lang

acknowledges the current association of puppets and kids, but notes there's a lot more to the field than you'd might think.

"The history of puppetry has a lot of very adult and X-rated material, if you look into it. It's recently that you associate it with Lamb Chop and cuddly characters, sock puppets geared towards children. When you think of puppetry, perhaps your first impetus is to think of kids and birthday parties, but there's some really exciting work with puppets that's happening and is very much adult and [...] on the contemporary edge of [storytelling]," Lang explains.

"You'll have to use your imagination when a Dali-esque breast flies across the room towards you, and you grab it and do what you would do with a breast."

DUVAL LANG
ACTOR, *THE EROTIC ANGUISH OF DON JUAN*

Presenting a play with puppets brings in fantastical possibilities, as papier-mâché and strings overcome the physical limitations faced by actors. Lang provides further proof of a world beyond Lamb Chop, as he utters the words "puppetry" and "Dadaist" in the same breath.

"Puppetry allows us to examine different ways of portraying bodies in the sense of space and time. We have almost a Dadaist kind of moving body part that becomes a temptation for Don Juan, but it manifests itself in many ways. You can do that easily with puppets as opposed to [human] actors," he says. "Puppetry allows us to play around. With puppets, [...] you can defy gravity. You can defy all sorts of elements that a live body can't, that a live body is restricted to."

Throughout Lang's eloquent speech, I've been silently wondering how to broach the subject of puppet sex. It seems like a topic lacking intellectual validity, like dropping a boob joke at a graduate seminar. Nevertheless, I pose the question.

"The [puppet] sex is probably unlike what most of us partake in," says an amused Lang. "You'll have to use your imagination when a Dali-esque breast flies across the room towards you, and you grab it and do what you would do with a breast. Or two separate legs that are apart and come together. There's one little cantina scene in which we go through the Kama Sutra."

The show develops its characters beyond disconnected body parts, however, building real personalities out of inanimate objects. Along with the Kama Sutra comes an examination of Don Juan's life, and, as Lang notes, it's been well-received.

"Audiences are really getting off on it. There's humour, but there's touching elements as well [...] You can create pathos and empathy for that character who is a puppet, you fall in love with [them]."



MICHAEL O'NEILL

Kabsa cooks up generous portions

diningreview

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MICHAEL O'NEILL
Arts & Entertainment Writer

My companion and I chose to dine at Kabsa for a couple of reasons. Firstly, their entire menu is Halal, and my friend, who is Muslim, didn't want to be stuck with a veggie burger or something of the sort. The second reason is not quite so noble — I had a buy-one-entree; get-one-free coupon.

We arrived to a near-empty restaurant, with only a lone man sitting at a table. He greeted us, and asked if we had ever been to Kabsa before. Neither of us had, so he rose, beckoned us over to the serving counter, and explained that Kabsa fuses Middle Eastern and Mediterranean cuisine, and begins to point out our food choices, which were steaming away in warming trays. After rapidly listing our options, which consisted of either lamb, chicken, rice, or mixed vegetables, he stands back and asked what we would like to have. I was a bit bewildered; never before had I been to a restaurant where no menus or prices were posted or offered. But I decided to go with the flow, choosing chicken marinated in some sort of spinach-garlic sauce for \$9.99. My companion opted for chicken as well, but of the tandoori variety, also \$9.99.

Any belief that a Mediterranean diet is supposed to be slimming vanishes from my mind,

as he heaps spoonful after spoonful of pink and orange rice (yes, you read correctly) onto the plate next to the monstrous chicken breast. It didn't stop there though, as a generous helping of vegetable stew was somehow forced onto the plate as well.

We each grab a can of coke (\$1.49) out of the self-serve refrigerator, and make our way back to the table. Sitting down, we discovered that the table was positioned so high that my companion could rest her chin on it without bending over. At this point, the man on duty shouts over that he could grab us some higher chairs if we wanted, but we decline, instead opting to move to a spot at the ledge overlooking Jasper Avenue.

The view was less than inspiring, as is typical in post-melt, pre-spring Edmonton, so we waste no time watching the streetscape and immediately dig into our gargantuan meals. At some point, the loud pop music that was playing when we entered stops, and the restaurant is left awkwardly silent. The food is good, but I have a difficult time finding anything particularly noteworthy about it, with the exception of the spicy sauce you receive on the side. At the risk of clashing cultures, I'd say it's a delicious, freshly-made salsa, and one of the spiciest varieties I have ever tried. Perhaps for this reason, it was paired with a garlic-yogurt dip, similar to tzatziki.

The first thing I did when I had access to a computer was check out Kabsa's webpage. As it turns out, an actual menu exists that includes many tasty options that were not offered to us. So, as advice to any of you adventurous souls who are prepared to conquer one of Kabsa's mountains of food, do your research ahead of time, and challenge the staff to create for you one of the mythical wonders listed on the hidden menu. You may just discover one of Edmonton's best-kept culinary secrets.

Old Man Luedecke serious about Greek mythology

musicpreview

Old Man Luedecke

Thursday, April 1 at 8 p.m.
Blue Chair Café (9624-76 Ave.)
\$12 advance, \$15 at door

ELLIOT GOODINE
Arts & Entertainment Staff

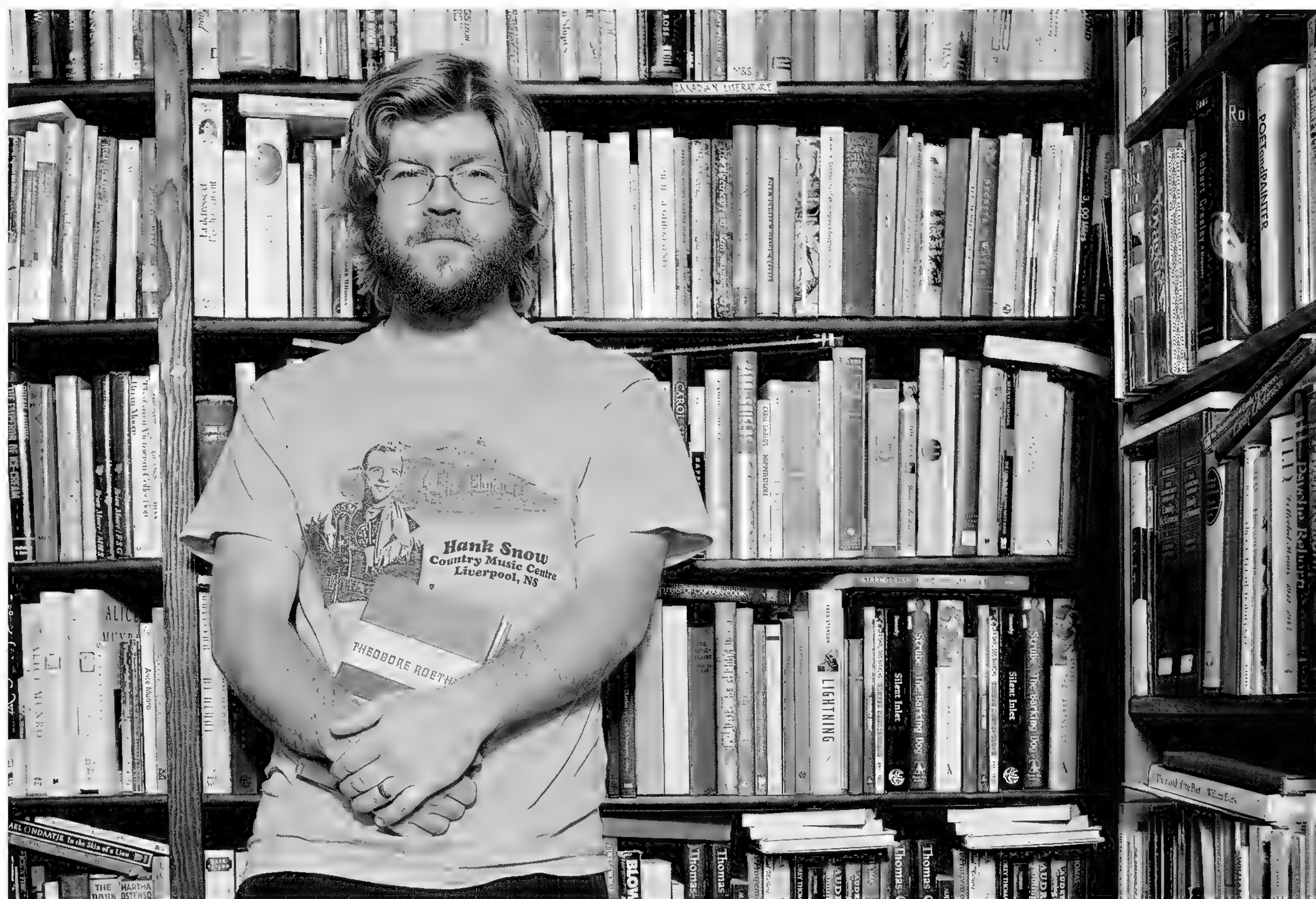
Getting older doesn't necessarily mean getting old, but sometimes it does mean finding a new direction. Old Man Luedecke, the Nova Scotia songwriter and banjo picker, is working to find ways to chart out his own unique path. While he's still a young man, he considers himself to be "an old soul." Last year, he picked up the Juno Award for Best Traditional Folk Album for his 2008 effort *Proof of Love*.

While the folkster also has songs about quitting his day job and the joys of cooking with bacon, he's written about less conventional material as well, making reference to Greek mythology on his latest effort.

His new album, *My Hands are on Fire and other Love Songs*, takes its title from the refrain of his song "The Rear Guard," which references the myth of Icarus. As the myth goes, Icarus crafted his own wings out of wax and feathers, only to go down in flames after flying too close to the sun. Strangely enough, when Luedecke picks his banjo strings and sings "my hands are on fire," it sounds downright joyful.

Luedecke explains that he sees the song as "a celebration of individuality."

"We're going to be the way we are, and not the way somebody else would like us to be — but then there's the irony that Icarus doesn't really make it," he says with a laugh. "The glue melts in the wings and he dies. It's just very important, because [...] I'm actually trying to do something different, but the Icarus theme is a nice grounding fact that my homemade wings aren't going to work."



Luedecke has also been doing his own thing with his touring itinerary. Last fall, he packed up his banjo and did a two-week bicycle tour of theatres in his home province of Nova Scotia.

"I guess it was sort of a celebratory tour in a way," he says. "I just felt like I could be anxious about life and touring, and this was a sort thing where I said, 'hey, I can do this — it's totally possible.'"

"I didn't do it for any great political reason

— it's just that it was fun. You know, but there's obviously politics involved in fun."

Luedecke takes his fun pretty seriously — he's always been committed to sincerity and earnestness in his songwriting.

"I'm really always looking for something that I can actually say and believe in, and that's a good way to be," Luedecke says.

My Hands are on Fire and other Love Songs seems representative of this commitment. While

Luedecke points out that his new album hits on some dark subject matter and some of the other tracks are lighthearted, he still sees all of them as genuine love songs.

"Even complicated love songs are [still] love songs, you know? I just think that at the root, most good songs are sort of a conduit for love at some level," he explains. "If it makes you feel something, I equate that with being a love song."

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101 things to do with an issue of the Gateway:

Each year, the *Gateway's* editorial staff impart their knowledge of newspapers onto future generations of aspiring writers in order to keep campus burning bright with the spirit of journalism (also, so that you have something to read while you're downing your morning coffee).



**Gateway
A&E:**

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of excellence since 1910.

Finnish band feels at home in cold Canada

musicpreview

Sonata Arctica

With *Powerglove and Mutiny Within*
Friday, April 16 at 8 p.m.
Starlite Room (10030-102 St.)
\$27.75 at Ticketmaster

GABBY RICHES
Arts & Entertainment Writer

On a well-deserved break after months of touring, Tony Kakko, vocalist and keyboardist for Finnish power-metal band Sonata Arctica, relaxes as he sits down to discuss the upcoming North American tour and their newly released album. Kakko pokes fun at the changing demographic which influenced the sound and lyrical content of the band's newest album, *The Days of Grays*.

"Within the last two years, people around me are getting older and they're getting fragile," Kakko says. "I'm taking the lead of the pack. I'm not focusing on real dark issues, even though they do emerge throughout the album."

One of the ways the new disc tries to appeal to a maturing audience is by the addition of a wide range of instrumentation.

"We included an orchestra; they play a strong role on some of the songs such as 'Deathaura.' We have a cello player from *Apocalyptica* as well," he says.

Sonata Arctica have also been occupied with being movie stars, having appeared in their music video for the song "Flag in the Ground."

"Making music videos are sometimes a pain in the ass, especially because I'm the lead singer and I'm required to do more than the rest of the guys," Kakko laughs.

The band filmed the video in an old brewery in Poland to create an idealist



atmosphere, and they certainly appreciated the fact that it was shot during the summer. However, as Kakko relates, not all video shoots occur under balmy conditions.

"The worst photo shoot experience I've ever had was for *Silence* in 2001. It was -25°C and all we had on were T-shirts. But the pictures came out amazingly, which proves my theory that every time you throw in some snow and suffering, it creates perfection."

On the flipside, in 2007, Sonata Arctica performed in the world's largest snow castle, which is located in their hometown of Kemi, Finland.

"We had this stage, which was part of the snow castle, and we had these gas heaters which made the stage really hot. Our keyboardist was having problems because his keyboard kept overheating."

Evidently, snow castles are misleading metal venues. Along with their snow-themed experiences, Canada has a very special place within Finnish people's hearts, particularly Kakko's.

"We feel as though we belong [in Canada] because we have the same climate. If I had to leave Finland, I would move to Canada," he says.

So what makes Finland a breeding ground for symphonic power-metal bands? According to Kakko, it's the quality of Finnish studios and he gives credit to Spinefarm Records, which took in a lot of young bands in the '90s in order to create a space for a new Finnish metal scene. Since Spinefarm Records' inauguration, there has been a huge presence of Finnish metal bands, but with this emergence comes more competition.

"It's hard getting to release new stuff," Kakko says. "If you don't have your feet on the ground or have a big record label behind you, then it's harder to receive exposure."

Although Kakko is uncertain of how to explain Sonata Arctica's sound without delving into some existential identity crisis, he hopes fans will walk out of the show with a smile on their face and a Sonata Arctica shirt on their back.



albumreview

Aeternam

Disciples of the Unseen
Metal Blade Records

GABBY RICHES
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Another talented metal outfit, Aeternam, is asserting Francophone dominance by demonstrating that Quebec is the epicenter of Canada's extreme metal scene. Since 2007, Aeternam have challenged the formulaic death metal regiment by incorporating Middle Eastern sounds and instrumentation. Now, Aeternam are unleashing their own brand of epic death metal with *Disciples of the Unseen*, their Metal Blade debut and

first studio release.

Aeternam's newest album is a musical mixture of everything from flute accompaniments to Babylonian mythology. The album is a flawless juxtaposition of melodic Eastern melodies with clean vocals, to pure brutality. For fans of Melechesh, Nile, Septic Flesh, and Orphaned Land, *Disciples of the Unseen* is a solid record that departs from the conventional formulas of Westernized

metal music and ventures into the complex realm of ambient keyboards, Eastern chanting, non-conventional percussion practices, and fearsome guttural explosions.

The lyrical content focuses on Egyptian, ancient Greek, and Middle Eastern mythologies which enhance the ambient and primitive aspects of the album. Songs such as "Ouroboros" and "Goddess of Masr" exemplify the band's profound sense of technicality and virtuosity. Conversely, "The Coronation of Seth" and "Iteru" are songs that represent the bands' ability to transform metal music into a cultural learning experience. Although bands such as Nile and Orphaned Land have already tapped into the popular vein of incorporating Middle Eastern-influenced melodies, Aeternam provides fans a refreshing perspective of the often stagnant sub-genre of death metal.



albumreview

Greg Macpherson

Mr. Invitation
Smallman Records

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN
Arts & Entertainment Staff

In the spirit of the recent Winter Olympic games, I listened to this album as a potential euphonic attack on the American music scene. While they may have claim to Bob Dylan, we have an equally genius, terribly voiced folk rocker in the form of Neil Young. While they have alt-country pioneers like Whiskeytown, the average Canadian citizen is actually

familiar with a little band called Blue Rodeo.

But what about one of my favourite American musicians, the man who delivers the music of the people, the only person who could effectively capture the despair of *The Wrestler* in song? Dare I say that there is no Canadian equivalent to Bruce Springsteen? Until recently, I

believed that this was an undeniable fact. Listening to Greg Macpherson's latest album, though, I sense a future contender.

His music has matured over the years into a weary rock 'n roll sound that captures sonic postcards of life in Canada. This could be his Nebraska. I don't suggest listening to this in the dead of an Alberta winter — it often comes across as terribly bleak. Out of this context, it provides an interesting album comprised of decent songs that profile an exceptional artist still trying to find his niche. I enjoy his work and this is unquestionably his best album yet. The only problem is that he constantly hints that he could do so much more. For longtime fans, this is a real treat, but it won't be likely to win him many new recruits.



DAN MCKECHNIE

Annie Mae sparse but poignant

Though Anna Mae Pictou's life was cut short, her legacy survives on the stage

theatre review

Annie Mae's Movement

Written by Yvette Nolan

Directed by Jessica Abdallah

Starring Reneltha Arluk and Chris Cound

Runs until April 3rd, times vary
Timms Centre (8 / Ave and 112 St.)
\$5-20 at Timms Box Office or
TIX on the Square

VONN GONDZIOLA
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Annie Mae's Movement is a sequence of one strong vignette after another. Written by Yvette Nolan, this play is based on true events of the life of Anna Mae Pictou Aquash and it examines her struggle to bring about social equality for her people through the American Indian Movement. The play also closely scrutinizes and questions what role women should play in bringing about these changes in hostile times. Sadly, Anna Mae's attempt to pave the way for aboriginals and women alike was cut short when she was shot and killed.

Annie Mae's Movement features only two actors: Reneltha Arluk as

the title character, and Chris Cound as "men." Together, these two create full characters on stage, bringing life and emotion to a plain script. Cound's intimidating manner plays well against Arluk's petite stature, emphasizing man's domineering ways over women.

Arluk's subversive performance as Annie Mae shows every side of the character, even the not-so-pretty ones, changing from courageous to vulnerable all in the same sentence.

Playing several different characters, Cound is able to give each one their own little faults, making them distinguishable. Perhaps his most moving performance is his silent portrayal of the Rugaru, the aboriginal werewolf. Starting with a powerful entrance, he moves and lurks about in such a creepy haunting way that it's nearly impossible to stop yourself from shivering.

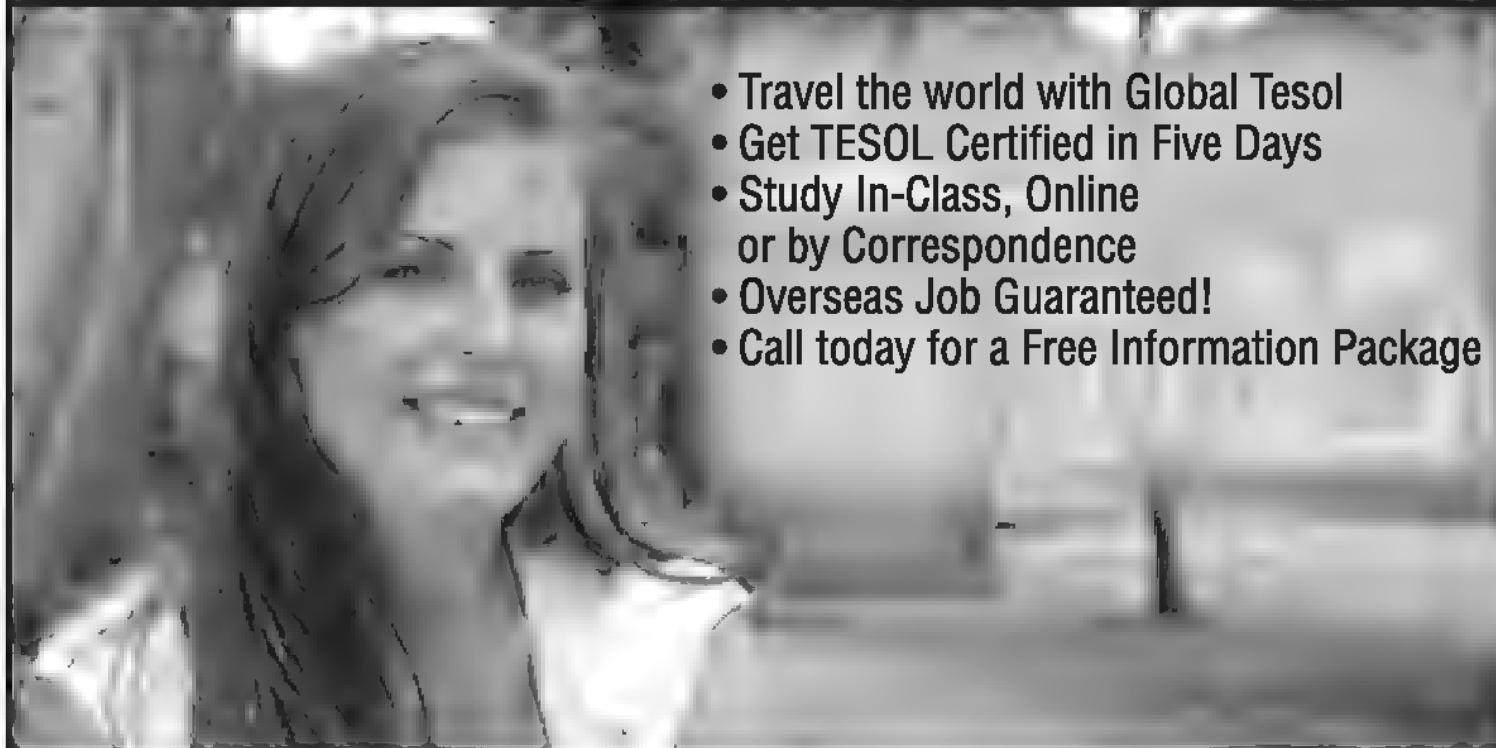
In addition to serving as Abdallah's MFA thesis, this play is also a partial fulfillment to designer Ruth Albertyn's MFA thesis. The set she has designed is both bare and functional. The play takes place over a span of years and across a nation. By employing a barren set and minimal projections, Albertyn effectively transports the viewer from Nova Scotia to South

Dakota to California, all without missing a beat. There were also hardly any props, the two most prevalent being a table and a chair.

In addition to a sparse set, there's also a great shortage of motivation. The background story for Anna Mae is minimal and non-existent for most of the men, making it somewhat difficult to understand the characters on a more complex level. However, this also gives the play a more general and accessible feeling. You don't need to know their motivation to know the feeling of oppression and the urge to inspire change.

Annie Mae's Movement is a moving experience. It takes a close look at how the oppressed become the better oppressors, and it will hopefully invite a closer look into sad stories like Anna Mae Pictou's. She's not the first aboriginal woman to disappear or die under mysterious circumstances, and she's far from being the last. The fact that these disappearances are still happening makes this play even more relevant, and forces the audience to face the dire situation. While discussion of these unnerving topics may not bring about a grand change, it may inspire questions that could lead to answers. But at least her loss won't be forgotten.

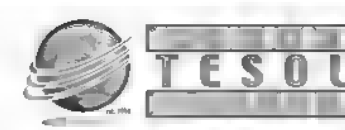
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album review

Frightened Rabbit

The Winter of Mixed Drinks
Fatcat Records

GRANT CRAWFORD
Arts & Entertainment Writer

If you haven't heard Frightened Rabbit's sophomore release, *The Midnight Organ Fight*, you should check it out. The album was something of a breakthrough for the band, and was an excellent chronicle of interpersonal failure and the accompanying loneliness. It's almost impossible to talk about their latest record *The Winter of Mixed Drinks* without mentioning *The*

Midnight Organ Fight's "The Modern Leper," a song thematically linking the two albums. Only now, the loneliness finds itself replaced by optimism. The lead single "Swim Until You Can't See Land" isn't a track about drowning; it's about leaving the bad memories behind and starting anew.

The songcraft of this album is similar to its predecessor, but in the three

years since the release of *TMOF*, the band has also expanded from three to five members, giving them a much more polished result. The sound has also gotten a lot fuller, with strings now present. Whereas before the vocals were front and center in driving the songs, now the arrangements take centre stage. What used to be sparse and unpolished has become full and brightened. Progressing from their previous album, their material has become more upbeat, and with that, their notoriety has also increased. This comes at the price of the immediacy which helped make their last album so poignant. The decreased emphasis on the vocals makes the album sound less focused, but that too is something of a theme here. All in all, it's pretty good; just don't compare it to their last.



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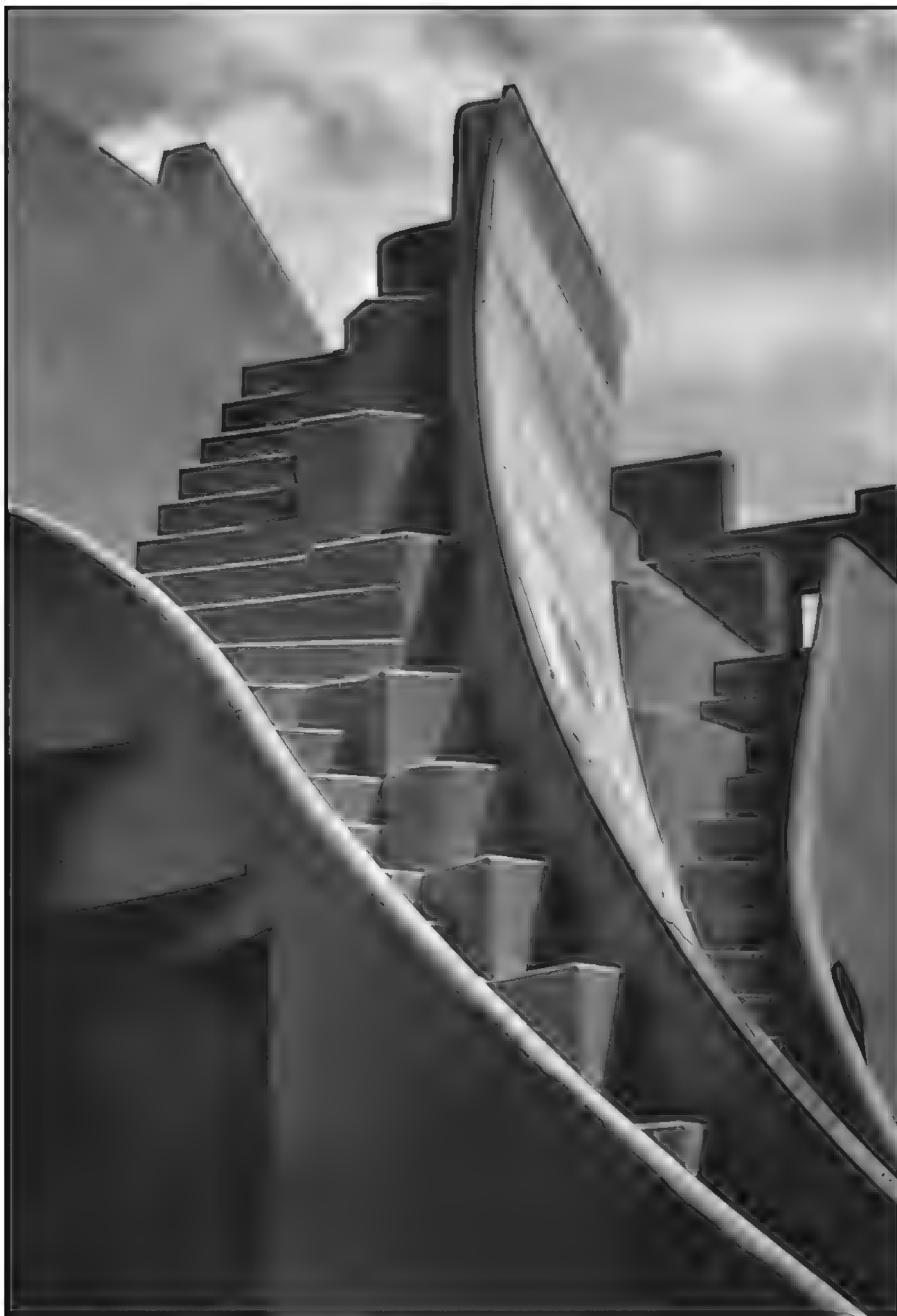
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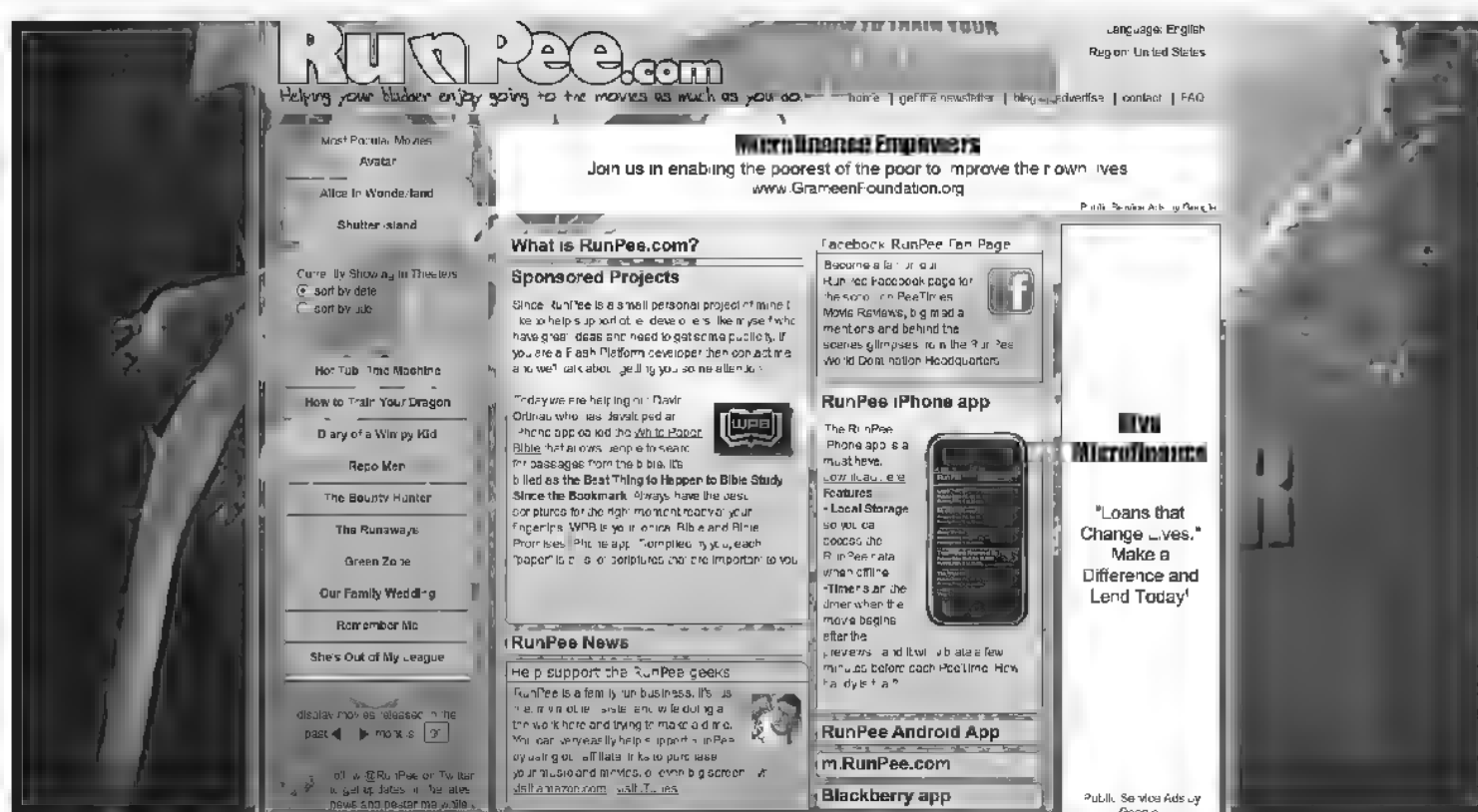
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RunPee.com

MIKE KENDRICK
Editor-in-Chief

I don't usually see movies in theatres unless they look *really* good. The public cinema experience, while not without merit, is hindered by expensive concessions, crying children, and the theatre manager's demand that I keep my feet down and my pants on. Plus, there's no

pause button. What happens when I'm two hours into *Avatar* and those three extra large sodas start working their magic on my bladder?

Luckily, for the less continent of film watchers, there's RunPee.com. Touted as "helping your bladder enjoy going to the movies as much as you do," the site's purpose is to offer the best points in a film during which to run out and relieve yourself. Because whether it's a well-edited masterpiece or some lighter popcorn fare, there's bound to be a slow point or two that'll allow you



albumreview

Eleazar vs. John
Pits in the Sandblaster
Eleazar Records

WAYNE SIMON
Arts & Entertainment Writer

If Adam Palmer's *Lights* is an overcooked ostrich drowned in HP sauce, his *Pits in the Sandblaster* might be its succulent counterpart. On the outside, it oozes light juices in the form of laid-back strumming and murmured vocals. Slice deeper and you'll reach a mildly satisfying chewy core. Slice through the core, and you'll realize this is a generous metaphor.

This record is, as they say, quaint. It's comfortable enough to listen to, but only if you already want to. Eleazar vs. John aren't aiming to give birth to new electronica fans. Some songs like "When You're Built Like That" are more traditional, with rock-like prominent drums and relatively louder vocals. Others, like "Anthem Of A Thoughtful Son" for example, seem

to watch the rest of the film in relative comfort.

Each page offers the film's length and a handy visual chart listing the most opportune occasions to pay a tribute to the porcelain god. For those concerned about spoilers, the site makes a point of providing vague enough descriptions of what's happening at that point in the flick so as not to ruin any upcoming plot points, but with enough details to make sure you don't slip out at the wrong time. And just to be sure you make it back to catch that killer climax, RunPee tells you exactly how much time you have before the plot picks up again.

Recently, the site has even added a mobile version, catering to a data-hungry movie-watcher who might not have time to check the site until he or she is sitting in the theatre. With a user-generated system of content that's updated within a day or two of the latest films hitting theatres, RunPee will ensure that you'll never be forced to choose between missing a sweet special effects sequence and re-purposing another empty Coke bottle for matters most foul.

to consist solely of meandering static rhythms. Meanwhile, "Movements" has atonal mumbblings, shifty percussions, and erratic time signatures.

Good CDs primarily do two things: sound interesting and deliver the theme/idea/message the artist wanted to get across. *Pits in the Sandblaster* falls just short of being particularly engaging. The best voices, even when processed like Spam, convey nuances that the listener takes to be emotion. In the case of Adam Palmer, the emotion seems to be disinterest.

Essentially, *Pits in the Sandblaster* is rather like a postprandial dip after a main dish. It features stripped-down electronica tracks with a healthy seasoning of folk melodies and pop sensibilities. Does that make a great album? Only if you like them quaint.

albumreview

Camaromance
The Parade
Lazy at Work

MADELINE SMITH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Montreal's Martine Groulx, otherwise known as Camaromance, makes music that's slightly tricky. At first, her latest release, *The Parade*, seems light and simple, with Groulx's effortless voice lulling you into a complacent sense of ease. However, continuing through the album leaves you inexplicably devastated, as Groulx drives a steamroller over your heart with little more than a guitar,

sparse percussion, and piano. There's a reason Camaromance's previous work was nominated in the category "Best Song to Listen to in the Fetal Position" for the 2007 CBC Radio 3 Bucky Awards.

Despite how painful it can be, though, it's hard to stop listening to *The Parade*. Groulx has a lovely, dark voice, and her mature command of her music is impressive. "Love a Surprise," the

album's fourth song, is catchy and misleadingly bright upon first listen, but is, in fact, a major turning point for the album as it spirals further downward into an increasingly dark place. The emotional climax of the record is its title track, "The Parade." Although the title suggests happy connotations, the idea of a parade is used as a metaphor for feeling isolated and alienated — watching a parade where "all your friends and family take part in the fun / but because some things get scary you refuse to tag along."

Listening to *The Parade* hurts, but the pain feels good. This is music for listlessly staring out the window on a rainy day or hiding yourself in a dark room for a few hours. Just be careful how far you let Groulx twist your heart around; she's likely to pull it right out.

FLOGGING MOLLY



albumreview

Flogging Molly
Live at the Greek Theater
Sideone Dummy Record

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Flogging Molly have always been a great live band. Over the years, I've had the opportunity to see them countless times, and they've never disappointed, successfully capturing their energy in small clubs, big stadiums, and outdoor festivals alike. Naturally, a live package from the notoriously well-performing band would be a welcome addition to any collection. The two-disc album covers 22 songs throughout the band's career; recorded at a theatre in their

native Los Angeles (did you actually think they were from Ireland?), which is essentially the audio track of the accompanying DVD. In addition to the entire concert footage, the DVD contains the band's entire music video collection and some other random goodies.

This is a large collection from a beloved Irish drinking band. The sound quality is phenomenal for a live recording, and the DVD gives a hint of what to expect

from their live set. Flogging Molly have released four full-length albums and four live collections to date. Chances are that longtime fans are itching for some original material from the group instead of another cash-grab live collection. It's no coincidence that it was released at the same time as the Dropkick Murphys' latest live album, right before St. Patty's Day, capitalizing on the surge in interest for all things Irish-related. However, if you happen to be unfamiliar with the band or have never purchased any of their albums, this is definitely the best place to start. It provides an overview of their entire career and exciting live show in a large collection with a relatively small price tag. It's time to discover why they have everyone from skinhead punks to suburban soccer moms singing along, so it's a worthwhile investment to pick up a copy of *Live at the Greek Theater*.



PETE YEE, CIS

Calgary tops Gateway rankings yet again

NATHAN LIEWICKI
Sports Staff

Canada West has once again dominated our top 10 rankings, as the three leading schools all hail from Canada's two western-most provinces, and this year's champion is familiar to the top spot, having been number-one in last year's *Gateway* rankings. Here's a look at how each respective schools earned their way to sporting glory.



Saskatchewan
Huskies T9
(69.5 points, Previous rank: 9)

The cinderella story of the year was Showron Glover and the U of S men's basketball team, who shocked the country by knocking off the top-ranked Carleton Ravens and second-ranked UBC Thunderbirds to win the school's first national championship in the sport. Moreover, the women's hardwood squad knocked off provincial rival Regina in the bronze-medal game to win their first CIS medal. Additional points were awarded to the Dogs courtesy of wrestlers Beth Thompson and Tim Kent, who were each recognized for their outstanding community service.



Western Ontario
Mustangs T9
(69.5 points, Previous rank: 2)

Taking the biggest tumble down our rankings was UWO. The 'Stangs were the only member of our top ten that failed to record a first- or second-place showing at any of the year's national championships, but still managed to make the cut on the strength of three third-place showings in women's wrestling, along with men's and women's track and field. From the curling rink to the pool and to the football field, the Mustangs' respectable showings at the national level propelled them into the top 10.



Saint Mary's
Huskies 8
(70.5 points, Previous rank: N/A)

Newcomers to our rankings, and the lone AUS representative, this Halifax-based school snuck into the top 10 by virtue of its men's hockey team downing Alberta 3-2 in the overtime frame of the University Cup final. The women's hockey

squad also contributed to SMU's point total with a surprise bronze medal win over the Laurier Golden Hawks. In curling, the women narrowly missed gold, losing to Regina 6-5 in an extra end. Women's field hockey coach Sharon Rajaraman and football coach Steve Sumarah received Coach of the Year honours.



Windsor
Lancers 7
(74 points, Previous rank: 8)

Co-hosts of this year's track and field nationals, the Lady Lancers failed to disappoint their hometown fans by running, throwing, and jumping their way to a second-straight national title, while the men captured silver. Hurdles star Noelle Montcalm was named CIS Athlete of the Year in women's track events, and Dennis Fairall once again received track and field Coach of the Year honours. Success for the Lancers also came on the hardcourt as both teams appeared at nationals, with the women dropping the title game to Simon Fraser.



Laval
Rouge et Or 6
(80.5 points, Previous rank: T3)

The strongest athletic school from La Belle Province, the Rouge et Or were once again a force to be reckoned with on the gridiron until they were upset in the Mitchell Bowl by the eventual Vanier Cup Champions from Queen's. Nonetheless, Laval had reason to be proud as their men's soccer squad dispatched rival McGill 3-2 in the gold-medal match to claim the school's first national championship. Both volleyball squads also had successful seasons as the women attained their first podium, placing with a bronze, and the men rode an undefeated season into nationals where they eventually finished fourth.



Toronto
Varsity Blues 5
(90.5 points, Previous rank: 7)

Jumping up two spots from last year's ranking, the Blues didn't win a national championship this year, but used a trio of second-place finishes in men's swimming, and women's cross-country and track and field to garner plenty of points. Wrestler Shujon Mazumber was named Athlete

of the Year in his sport, as did swimming sensation Colin Russell and cross-country star Megan Brown. Toronto also notched top-seven finishes in women's field hockey, volleyball, soccer, and swimming, as well as men's soccer.



Guelph
Gryphons 4
(112 points, Previous rank: 5)

By running past the competition and claiming both the men's and women's cross-country national titles for the second year in a row. The Gryphons proved that excelling in the marquee sports is not necessary to make our top 10. Matt Brunsting took home male Athlete of the Year honours in cross-country, while teammate Genevieve Lalonde was named the women's Rookie of the Year in track and field. Guelph nabbed the national championship in men's track and field, but finished fourth on the women's side. The women's rugby squad also contributed with their third consecutive bronze medal.



Alberta
Bears/Pandas 3
(119.5 points, Previous rank: T3)

It was another successful all-around season for Alberta's athletic teams as they wowed fans on the ice, on the courts, and on the pitch. The most triumphant U of A team was Pandas hockey, who captured their record seventh national championship on the strength of three straight shutouts from goaltender Dana Vinge. The hockey Bears, however, could not emulate the Pandas, finishing a promising season with a heartbreaking second-place finish. The Pandas field hockey team also shined by virtue of its second consecutive silver medal at the national tournament. The cross-country, swimming, curling, and volleyball teams also turned in solid performances this year.



UBC
Thunderbirds 2
(126.5 points, Previous rank: 2)

UBC led all Canadian schools with seven podium finishes in 2009/10 — however, none was more impressive than their women's volleyball squad, who capped off an undefeated season with their third-straight national championship inside the U of A Main Gym. The women's field hockey squad was also golden in capturing a record 12th McCrae Cup with a 6-0 pasting of the Pandas in the final, and the women's and men's swim teams finished second and third, respectively. Three UBC athletes also captured Player of the Year honours in their respective sports: Josh Whyte (men's basketball), Liz Cordonier (women's volleyball), and Martha McCabe (swimming).



Calgary
Dinos 1
(139 points, Previous rank: 1)

For the second consecutive year, the Dinos claimed the top spot in our rankings by virtue of winning three national championships. A powerhouse in swimming, the Dinos captured both the men's and women's titles with the help of the CIS Rookies of the Year Bogdan Knezevic and Allison Lang. One of the biggest surprises of the year came in men's volleyball, where the Dinos dispatched of Dalhousie and the two-time defending champion Golden Bears in five sets, before taking down Trinity Western in four sets to claim the school's first men's volleyball national crown.

Calgary's athletic success included a pair of second-place finishes. The Gridiron Dinos turned in one of those runner-up finishes, as Calgary dropped the Vanier Cup to the Queen's Golden Gaels. The women's wrestling squad claimed the Dinos other second-place finish. Solid performances by the cross-country and track teams also contributed to the Dinos' athletic achievements this season.

THE NUMBERS GAME

Wondering how each team on the list got their magic number? Here's the breakdown: a team's placing at nationals secured ten points for first place, nine for second, and so forth, down to one point for tenth place. In the event that ten teams were not in the national tournament (for example, in men's and women's hockey), CIS Top Ten rankings were used to place non-tournament teams down to the tenth position, in order to ensure that every sport handed out the same number of points. Individual performance-based awards for each sport (Coach of the Year, Athlete of the Year, etc.) were awarded five points apiece, while merit-based awards (community service, Student-athlete of the Year) were awarded three points each. All points for the seven major sports with televised finals (men's and women's basketball, hockey, and volleyball, as well as football) were multiplied by 1.5.



The Edmonton Touch Football Association is now accepting new teams for the upcoming 2010 season (May - Sept)

For more info visit www.etfa.ab.ca

PIERRE MCGUIRE-ISM
OF THE WEEK



Pierre McGuire loves to float the boats of locals when it comes to their hometowns. Everything is beautiful, and the people are always great. In the spirit of Pierre, Gateway Sports would like to thank the people of the beautiful city of Thunder Bay, Ontario for their hospitality this past weekend at CIS men's hockey nationals. If your hometown is beautiful (and they all are to Mr. McGuire), you qualify to write for Gateway Sports, so come on out and volunteer.

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CIS

Former pro Danton making most of
hockey second chance with Saint Mary's

After being released from jail in September, rookie Huskie adapting to student life

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

It was the storyline that overshadowed all others at the men's hockey nationals in Thunder Bay this past weekend: Mike Danton and his return to hockey with the Saint Mary's Huskies.

Danton's tale has played out countless times since his release from prison on September 28, 2009 after serving more than five years in prison for a failed murder-for-hire plot. He was searching for a return to hockey, and eventually turned to the CIS.

"I really didn't know anything about Canadian university hockey," Danton explained. "It's not as bad as I thought it was going to be. I'd never watched a game or anything. I was surprised to see how fast it was."

Despite his lack of knowledge for CIS hockey, the ex-Barrie Colt wound up in Halifax with the Huskies after reaching out to head coach Trevor Stienburg, who was initially skeptical of Danton joining his club.

"He gave us a call and left a voice-mail on my answering machine, and we didn't really give it a lot of time. When I took it to the players more in a joking way, they seemed to take a little bit of ownership of it, and kind of convinced me about second chances," Stienburg explained.

"I opened my mind up a little bit to it, and they kept convincing me and so forth to see the other side of it, and not

just the hockey side of it — the second chance side of it. The rest is history."

That new start is one Danton will be forever grateful to Stienburg for giving him, especially since many coaches around the country would've simply turned away from Danton with the circus that has followed him since joining SMU.

"It was more about giving me a second chance, and wanting me to succeed in life in areas other than hockey. They went the extra mile to make me feel comfortable," Danton said.

After being out of competitive hockey since the 2003/04 season when he suited up for 68 games with the St. Louis Blues, Danton never doubted his abilities stepping back into the game with the Huskies.

"I was skating for about a month and a half before I came to Saint Mary's. It wasn't nervousness. It was just acknowledging where it wasn't going to be," Danton explained. "You can skate as long as you want by yourself, or with a couple guys, but it's not like getting into game shape. I knew where I was going to be, and where I wasn't going to be."

"Five months ago, I was still in jail, so it's a pretty good feeling right now."

With little idea what Danton would be able to bring to the table, when he did join the team in January, Stienburg wasn't sure where Danton would fit into the mix. For a player who had spent the last half-decade in jail,

joining the defending AUS champions mid-season meant that ice time wasn't a guarantee.

"I didn't know what to expect after over five years of not playing. I think you just have to just worry that he can keep up at that point. Everybody wanted to think he was going to jump in as a superstar," Stienburg said.

Taking advantage of an injury to Kyle Doucet, Danton drew into the lineup for the Huskies in February and was a fixture from then on, helping the Huskies to win the national title.

On the academic side, so far Danton feels he's adapted well to life as a student-athlete after the initial attention he garnered after stepping on campus.

"First couple days there, I was getting second and third glances. I don't know what they were thinking; I don't know if I want to know what they were thinking," Danton said.

Fresh off his team's championship season, Danton is simply taking life day-by-day with his new teammates, looking to forget his troubled past.

"I was released from prison September 28, so a little under five months ago I was sitting in jail, and now I'm sitting here with the six best teams in Canada playing for the national championship, trying to get a university degree. If you would've asked me a few months ago where would I have seen myself, I couldn't have imagined being here."

careerrecap

MIKE DANTON

| | | | REGULAR SEASON | | | | | PLAYOFFS | | | | |
|---------|----------------------|--------|----------------|----|----|-----|-----|----------|---|----|-----|-----|
| Season | Team | League | GP | G | A | Pts | PIM | GP | G | A | Pts | PIM |
| 1997-98 | Sarnia Sting | OHL | 12 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 37 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1997-98 | Toronto St. Micheals | OHL | 18 | 4 | 6 | 10 | 77 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1998-99 | Toronto St. Micheals | OHL | 27 | 18 | 22 | 40 | 116 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1998-99 | Barrie Colts | OHL | 26 | 15 | 20 | 35 | 62 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 11 | 38 |
| 1999-00 | Barrie Colts | OHL | 64 | 18 | 14 | 32 | 86 | 25 | 7 | 16 | 23 | 107 |
| 2000-01 | Albany River Rats | AHL | 69 | 19 | 15 | 34 | 195 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2000-01 | New Jersey Devils | NHL | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2002-03 | New Jersey Devils | NHL | 17 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 35 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2003-04 | St. Louis Blues | NHL | 68 | 7 | 5 | 12 | 141 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 2009-10 | SMU Huskies | AUS | 7 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 21 | 12 | 6 | 5 | 11 | 31 |



Alberta drops overtime thriller to Saint Mary's in hockey final

BEARS ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After lighting the lamp four times with the man advantage just a night earlier against Lakehead. Despite some glorious opportunities — was unable to find the twine Sunday, with the power play going 0-for-4 against SMU.

With Saint Mary's taking the lead in the third period off an Andrew Hotham point shot that beat Alberta netminder Travis Yonkman short-side, the Bears got some late-regulation heroics from Derek Ryan, who scored with less than five minutes to play in the third to force the game into overtime.

In the extra frame, Alberta had some glorious scoring chances — including Mark Ashton's slapshot off the post — before rookie Brad Smith provided the game winner for the Huskies, as his overtime winner lifted SMU to its first hockey national title.

"The biggest goal of my career, and to be honest, the biggest goal I'll ever score in my career," said Smith of the winner that came at the 9:13 mark of overtime.

The championship was especially sweet for SMU head coach Trevor

Stienburg, who in his 13th season at the helm of the Halifax-based Huskies, saw all that work pay off with a thrilling championship final win.

"We certainly had opportunities to win. Good teams find a way to hang around and win, and it's tough because often your season is defined by one game — that's a tough way to live for a team."

ERIC THURSTON
BEARS HOCKEY HEAD COACH

"I don't know what to say. A small school like Saint Mary's, first time in our history — just to be a part of it is unbelievable," Stienburg said.

After being one period away from a berth in the national final a season

ago, Saint Mary's was able to ride a strong core of returning players to the national title, including defenceman Andrew Hotham, who led the nation in defenceman scoring for the second consecutive year. Hotham had a terrific University Cup, netting five points and the tournament MVP title.

"I don't think any human being has ever got that much ice-time in any game and he just keeps ticking. His composure — he's got ice in his veins," said Stienburg of Hotham.

For Alberta, it marked the school's first loss in the championship game since 1991, when the Bears fell to UQTR. The Canada West champions just couldn't put SMU away early when the Huskies were back on their heels.

"We certainly had opportunities to win. Good teams find a way to hang around and win, and it's tough because often your season is defined by one game — that's a tough way to live for a team," Thurston explained.

"We're based on national championships, but I'm really proud of these guys and I told them we can't be defined by one game."



UNIVERSITY CUP ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

UNIVERSITY CUP MVP: D- Andrew Hotham, Saint Mary's

| Goaltender | Defence | Defence |
|---|---|--|
|  <p>Neil Conway (ST. MARY'S)</p> |  <p>Andrew Hotham (ST. MARY'S)</p> |  <p>Ian Barteaux (ALBERTA)</p> |
| Forward | Forward | Forward |
|  <p>Cody Thornton (ST. MARY'S)</p> |  <p>Cam Fergus (ST. MARY'S)</p> |  <p>Chad Klassen (ALBERTA)</p> |



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That's the most unfriendly tree I've ever seen!

Swift Heart Rabbit's concern isn't unwarranted. Unfriendly trees are everywhere and steadily getting grumpier as Céline Dion continues to make albums. Thankfully the Gateway will continue to combat this problem over the summer by turning much of the unfriendly tree population into beautiful comic-filled newspapers.

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THE GATEWAY:

Preparing to Care Bear stare since 1910.

Holding the Podium

Words by Evan Daum



HOCKEYALBERTA.CA

In an economic climate that's brought financial hardships to many organizations and institutions, the trickle-down effect of a \$3.6-billion deficit for the fiscal year is being felt by provincial sport organizations in Alberta.

With the most recent provincial budget being handed down last month, the Ministry of Tourism, Parks and Recreation faced cut-backs as the province looked to navigate through the tough times. The Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Association Foundation (ASRPWF) — which is responsible for promoting healthy lifestyle through the development of active partnerships in sport and recreational programs — received a \$1.84 million cut in the most recent budget.

While the foundation is responsible for a wide variety of organizations and programs, Provincial Sport Organizations — not-for-profit provincial-level organizations that are responsible for the regulation and promotion of their particular sport — play an important role within the foundation. Alpine Alberta will be seeing the brunt of the cuts within the ASRPWF budget, along with many other PSOs, as 86 per cent of the \$1.84 million cut will come out of their funding.

The 103 PSOs in the province will be receiving an 18.5 per cent cut to the grants they receive from the ASRPWF. While that figure isn't monumental, especially for larger PSOs like Alpine Alberta or Hockey Alberta, the cut puts added pressure on organizations that are already working overtime to accomplish their goals.

"The size of the cut is such that it's not enormously disruptive, but it's still painful," president of Alpine Alberta Ken Read said. "You still have to go and replace it. It's not arriving at a time that it can't be replaced. In other words, it's not that late into the cycle; we're just moving into the budgeting cycle now for us."

While Alpine Alberta is in a better position than some of their counterparts as far as their position in the budgetary cycle, the cut still stings.

With the federal government and many other provincial governments, including the British Columbia provincial government, continuing to show their commitment to athletics, Read — a former Olympian and World Cup ski champion — sees that the will to fund sport is there. But he also understands the tough economic times the

province currently finds itself in.

"Sport leaders in the province are stepping up to say 'We recognize that you're in a challenging situation, you have a significant deficit, and are working to try and address that,'" Read explains. "But given the fact that it appears the federal government and most other provincial governments are following suit to what B.C. is doing — which is at least maintaining their funding contributions to sport and the public — the will is to do the same. We as sport leaders want to work with you to make sure we are able to help you accomplish your goals."

Minister of Tourism, Parks and Recreation Cindy Ady also sees that other levels of governments have acknowledged the public will for sport funding, but notes that the province is already doing more than its share for success at

shouldn't tighten your belts when everyone is in areas of real concern?" You have education and health care, and we tried to protect those, but that meant all other departments tightened their belts this year, because you don't have as much money this year," Ady explained.

While the necessity of cuts almost across the board was a reality of the most recent budget, the cuts to the PSOs — which she hopes will affect the administrative side, more so than the programs offered by the 103 different PSOs in Alberta — come at a time when sport could be used as a springboard to a more comprehensive policy on health and wellness in the province.

"We have a tremendous opportunity right now to really build on remarkable success, and move towards having, I think, enormous impact on some of the problems our society faces," Read

"We have a tremendous opportunity right now to really build on remarkable success, and move towards having, I think, enormous impact on some of the problems our society faces,"

KEN READ
PRESIDENT OF ALPINE ALBERTA

the national and international level through programs like Own the Podium.

"This province steps up really big in that area. In fact, I've had some say, 'Aren't you going to do anything with Own the Podium?' and I'm going, 'You know, we already do a lot.' I'm glad the federal government has decided to keep that intact. I think that was the right thing to do, but if we don't build the base, they don't have the top," Ady said.

In a perfect world, according to Ady, there would be no need for budget cuts — that's far from the reality, however, as departments across all sectors of government were forced to cut spending.

"Every department had to do their share. We have a recessionary budget, and so that was the question that got asked to sports organizations: 'Administratively, why do you think you

said in reference to Canada's recent success at the Vancouver Olympics.

"If we really truly want to attack that in a concrete way, that's where involvement of sport professionals is critical, number one; and number two, we have such a wonderful opportunity."

That comprehensive policy is something the minister has been working on, and is currently in the process of spearheading the government's active living policy — something she continues to work on.

"We're talking about how sedentary we as Albertans — particularly children — are becoming, and so sports are a piece of that; it's a big piece of it. Beyond sport, there are other elements that have to be included. Not all kids participate in sports — wish they did, wish they could, but not all do. It's a bit fuller than just sports, but it's definitely a component of it. They'll be included



PETE YEE



HOCKEYALBERTA.CA



GRAEME MCGINN

in the consultation we have," Ady said.

Read, like his counterparts, has seen governments of the past take the approach that funding goes either to areas traditionally viewed as critical, like education and health care, while areas such as sport funding end up neglected.

"In many cases, the argument had been that you either did health and education, or you provided high-performance sport. It was a zero-sum game," Read explained.

"The amount that we're talking isn't an enormous amount of money. It's very minor — it's almost infinitesimal within the provincial budget, understanding, of course, that there are many competing demands. We are well aware of that, but what we're saying is that the public will is there to say that we can do both, and maintaining these things may have an impact of saving substantially larger dollars in the health care sector through preventative medicine. By greater engagement of kids, it cuts into youth crime and all of that related sector."

As the PSOs work through the recent budget cuts, the minister will be working on the government's active living policy — something Read hopes the PSO leaders will be involved heavily in, since they're on the front lines of grassroots sport in the province.

"I hope the minister realizes that there are a number of sport leaders that are saying that this isn't what the public sentiment is, so we're not going to go away from it. We'd like to sit down and figure out a better way with them, and because we see that this is a fundamental direction, we need to work with the minister to try and bring it in line with the rest of the country," Read said.

Ady, who acknowledges the public sentiment for sport funding, will now be moving forward with her active living policy, and, hopefully in the future, plug the dollars cut this year back into PSOs.

"As soon as I can get monies back in those programs, I'm going to be pushing because that's where I want it put back. At this point in time, I was just glad to be able to find a way to manage through the next year to two, and move on."

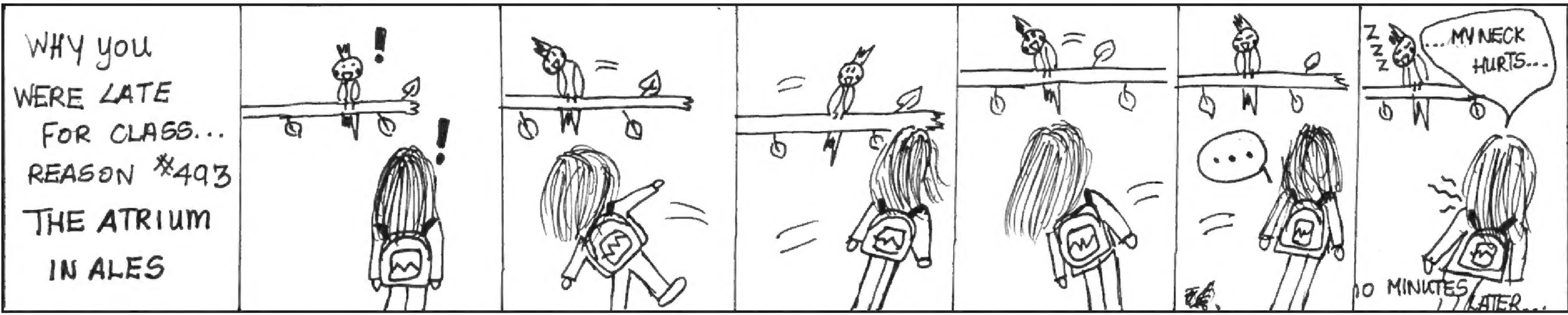
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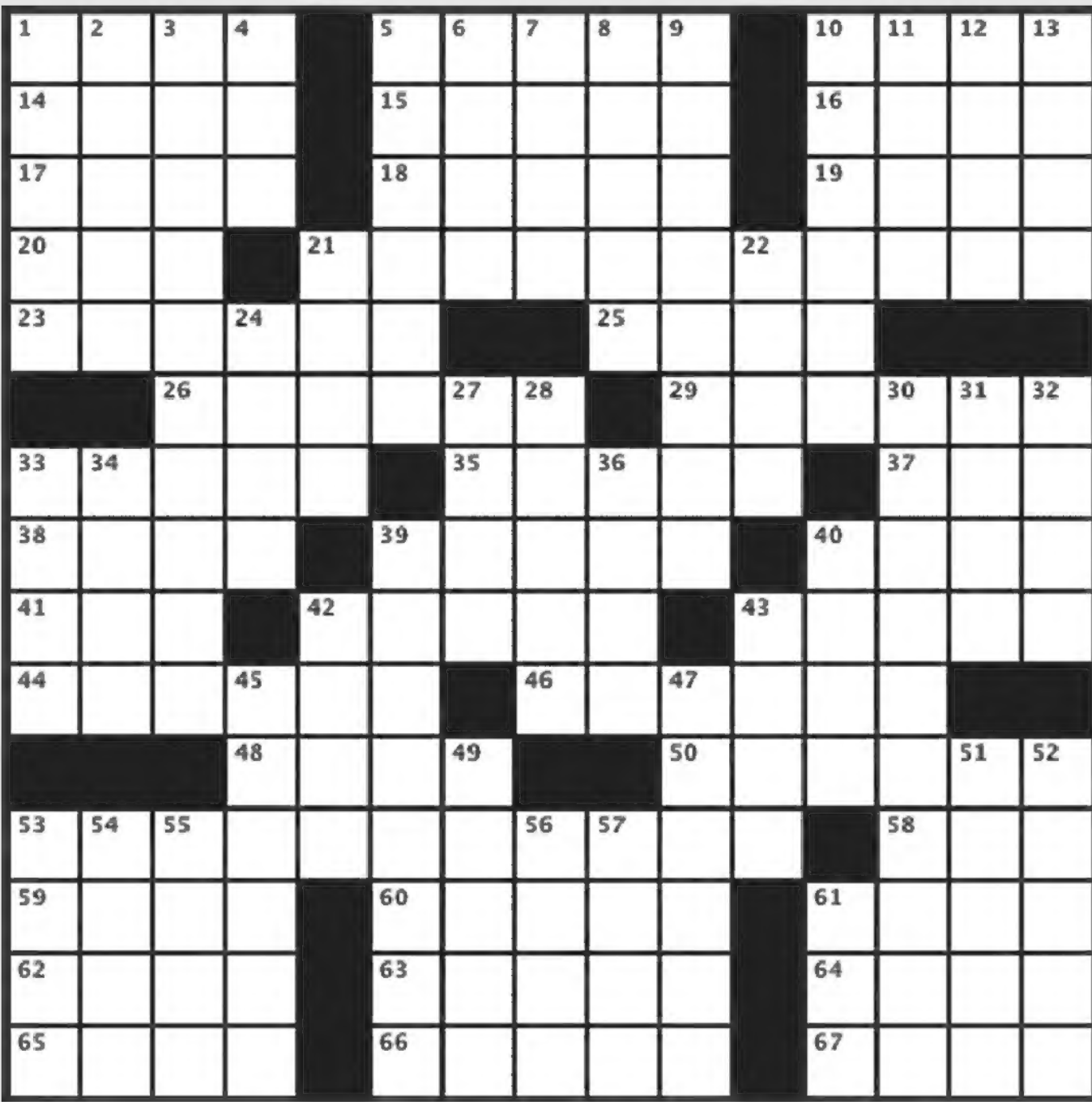
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- Across**
1. Wonka's creator
 5. Convocation of witches
 10. Inter _____
 14. It's blown among the reeds
 15. Model Campbell
 16. Pleasing
 17. Medicine
 18. Brother of Moses
 19. Affirm solemnly
 20. Beetle juice?
 21. Wharf
 23. Come out
 25. French 101 verb
 26. Outer defense of a castle
 29. Farthest
 33. Flax refuse
 35. Bellows
 37. Greek X
 38. Minerals
 39. Brown
 40. At that time
 41. Actor Stephen
 42. Intervening in law
 43. Inspire anew
 44. Request
 46. Italian ice cream
 48. Pitcher Hersher
 50. Gum arabic source
 53. Universality
 58. Hosp. workers
 59. Yard tunneler
 60. Preceding, poetically
 61. Colombian city
 62. OPEC member
 63. Fiend
 64. Served perfectly
 65. 1996 Tony-winning musical
 66. Construct
 67. Unit of computer memory

- Down**
1. Evade
 2. Garfield's middle name
 3. Make tractable

crossword



4. Human limb, section of a journey
5. Tooth covering
6. Swedish auto
7. Aboriginal rite site
8. Love, Italian-style
9. Tinge
10. Head garland
11. As it happens
12. Bakery worker
13. Dynamic beginning
21. Sponsorship
22. Collective word for intellectual pursuits
24. X-ray units
27. Ages
28. Juvenescent
30. Mob rule
31. Author Silverstein
32. Very small

33. Israeli dance
34. Ancient Athens's Temple of _____
36. To _____ (perfectly)
39. Sing for
40. Cheerio!
42. Additional
43. Suggestive
45. Instigate
47. Hidden
49. One in prison for good
51. Bay
52. Digression
53. Chieftain, usually in Africa
54. An apple or a planet will have this at the centre
55. _____ Bator, Mongolia
56. Draw near
57. Camaro model
61. Taxi



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